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STEAD'S

PUBLISHED
FORTNIGHTLY

OCTOBER 5TH 1918



"PEACE OFFENSIVES"

STIRRING DOINGS IN
TWO "SIDE SHOWS"

A WORLD SAFE FOR
DEMOCRACY

BY MEREDITH ATKINSON

THE RUSSIAN TANGLE

NORMAN ANGELL'S
LATEST BOOK

7^D

MY MESSAGE To Every Woman



In these war times the matter of being well dressed is a big question for thousands and thousands of women. Prices are so high and anything that is at all fashionable is beyond the means of the average woman.

But I have the answer. I can not only show you how you can save money on your clothes that will go towards paying for other necessities, but I can tell you how you can have more and prettier dresses than you have ever had, as well as being able to make cunning little clothes for kiddies, and to accept a highly-paid position or to go into business for yourself, if desired. Do you wonder how? The answer is simple.

LEARN UP-TO-DATE DRESSMAKING AT HOME
BY THE WONDERFUL ASSOCIATED SYSTEM.

The cost of clothes is going to be even higher next year than it is this. Make up your mind now that you will at least find out about this NEW plan that is already meaning so much to thousands of women.

Learn Dressmaking In Your Own Home A GRAND FREE OFFER

I know that you are going to say that you could never learn Dressmaking at home. But that is only because you do not know about the wonderfully simple Associated System of teaching high-class Dressmaking by correspondence. It is different and far superior to all other methods.

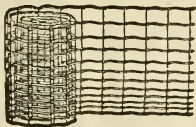
Everything is so easy and yet so practical that you can start making your own clothes at once. You can quickly learn how to make your own dresses, blouses, costumes and underclothes—and charming, dainty little garments of every kind for the children. Yes, you can learn every phase of fashionable dressmaking—you are taught quickly how to design, plan, cut, fit, make, drape and trim all kinds of clothes—so that should you desire or should necessity require it, you can secure a good paying position or open an exclusive and profitable business of your own.

And the delightful part of it all is that you do not have to sacrifice a minute from your usual duties or pleasures, for by the Associated System you learn right in the comfort and quiet of your own home, the natural place to learn, and you apply your newly-

acquired skill immediately to your every-day sewing needs.

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I ask you to sit down NOW and send me YOUR name and address. Be sure to mention "Stead's Review," and state whether Mrs. or Miss. I will understand and will send you all particulars of the marvellous Associated System by return post. Do this immediately, as otherwise you may leave it till too late and lose the chance of a lifetime. Send no money with your application for full particulars; simply send your name and address to-day, to Madame Lex Mildred THE ASSOCIATED SCHOOL OF DRESS-MAKING, 3 Record Chambers, Castlereagh Street, Sydney.



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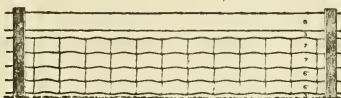


Fig. 8—Special Cyclone Spring Coil Sheep Fence.

A purchase in one order of such magnitude by a responsible body like the Closer Settlement Board is a convincing proof of the superiority of Cyclone Spring Coil Fencing.

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Class 1.—The fortunate ones whose experiences have not unfitted them for the work they followed previously to enlisting and who can go back to their old positions or similar ones.

Class 2.—Those whose money has accumulated and who have determined to use this money and their leisure in

preparing themselves for better work and perhaps entirely different kind of work in the future from that they have done in the past.

Class 3.—Those whose experience has been such that they are permanently unfitted from following the trade by which they lived before enlisting.

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We have referred to three classes of returned soldiers. Knowing in which class you are, please read the following carefully:—

Class 1. After months of active service and severe discipline of the body, another discipline is needed—that of the mind and will. After the wandering life—more or less irresponsible—you find it difficult to settle down, to give close application to your work, to concentrate your attention on necessary details. Your mind wants discipline. If you can only create the right mental attitude, then you are a far and away better man than you were when you went away.

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Class 2. To put it mildly, the soldier who now has a lump sum of money and does not see some of that money, and the time between his welcome home, and his discharge, in preparing himself to do and to be something better than he was before he enlisted, is missing his biggest opportunity.

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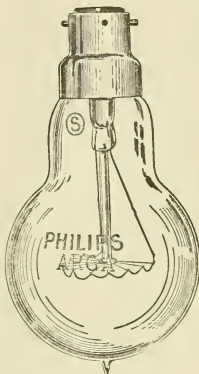
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Please send Outfit containing a pair of Wilson Ear-Drums, an Inserter and a Remover, for which I enclose £1 1s.

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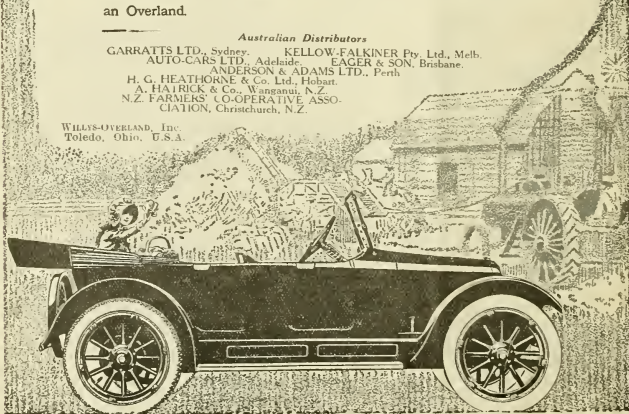
Here we show the famous Model 90, a car light enough to be very "mobile," yet heavy enough to hold the road easily; powerful, easy to drive and easy to ride in.

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Yes, no doubt, have long been wishing to obtain an appliance that would be not only comfortable to wear, but one which would also hold your rupture under all conditions. If you will write us, we will be pleased to send you particulars of our **PATENT AUTOMATIC AIR CUSHION RUPTURE APPLIANCE**.

Never mind if you have tried everything else. This appliance is **SOMETHING ENTIRELY NEW**. It is, in fact, the very best apparatus for rupture which has yet been invented. It does away altogether with those cumbersome steel springs. There are none of those galling leather undertraps. Our pad or Air Cushion is made of soft, pliable rubber, which exerts a gentle, yet firm and uniform pressure, always on the correct spot. To show what WE think of this Patent Rupture Appliance.

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Note.—**STEAD'S REVIEW** appears every
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Where's the Money Coming From?

THE children—the house—the butcher—and the gas company—all need more, and more, and more money. You can't do any more work—and you can't do any different work. What are you going to do? That's your problem.

Your answer is here. You can get more money—for less work. When a corporation wants to make more money without increasing its plant it calls in a great Efficiency Engineer—like Harrington Emerson. Now—you can do the same for yourself; for Harrington Emerson has applied the principles which he has already given to 200 companies to you, as an individual in the

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And, above all, it is the individual who must reorganise himself, because it is he who is the basis of the trouble. Let the Emerson Course teach you to conserve your brain, your time—for these are your capital—just as money and machinery are the capital of a factory. Learn to invest them right. There's more coming to you out of life—Get it. Get the money and rest and success you ought to have. You won't work longer—you'll work less. You are full of unused energy. Consider country people and city people. The rapidity of the city man's life bewilders the country man. A day in town is a terror. But give him a year of himself—and he won't be working any harder. That's what Efficiency will do for you who are already in the city. It will attune you to a new gait—a new zest and snap—and things will leap along where now they crawl.

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14 Chapters

Illustrated.

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Efficiency is an express road to success. The ordinary way of doing is like a local—stopping at way stations of mistakes and ignorance. Take the express and go straight to success.

The Institute of Efficiency (Australasian Branch),
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The Question?

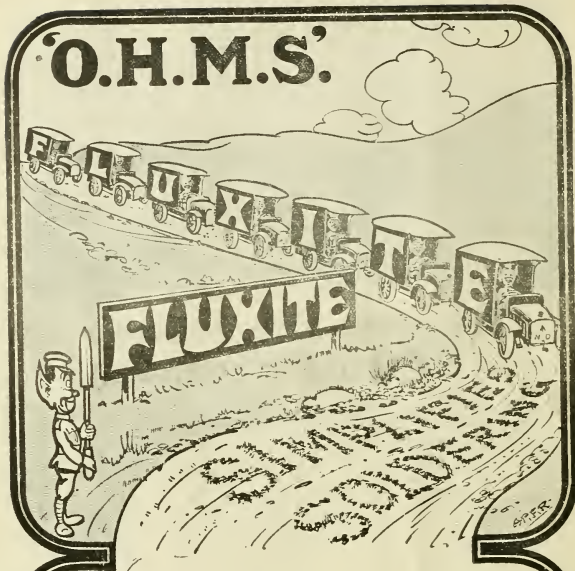
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Please send me free and without any obligation your book, "The Question," and full particulars of your Home Study Course in Efficiency.

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S.R. 5/10/18.



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CONTENTS OF STEAD'S REVIEW

For OCTOBER 5th, 1918.

	PAGE		PAGE
War Map	...	Frontispiece	
Progress of the World—		Progress of the World (Continued)—	
Three Months Ago and To-day	277	Is it the Beginning of the End?	288
The Austrian Peace Offer	277	A Significant Withdrawal	289
The German Peace Terms	279	Strike at Germany Through Austria	289
The Allied Replies	278	Bringing Peace Nearer	290
Wilson's answer and the Offer to Belgium	278	The Famous Fourteen Articles	292
Side-shows	279	History in Caricature	293
The relative Importance of Palestine and the Balkans	279	Post War Problems. By Prof. M. Atkinson	297
Some Salonikan History	279	Do You Know That—	300
When the Diversion Was Due	280	General Maurice and Generalissimo Foch	302
The Strength of the Allied Army	280	A Ford Ship a Day	303
The Serbs win Back Their Own	281	British Control of the Tropics	303
What will Follow This Victory?	282	Coming General Election in Great Britain	305
Will the Bulgars Stand?	282	Catechism of the War—LXXVII.	307
War-Wearied Bulgars	283	Notable Books	311
Allenby's Brilliant Victory	284	The Winds of Chance. By Rex Beach	313
On the Other Side Jordan	285	Financial and Business Quarter	320
End of the Baku Venture	285		
The Parious Case of the Czecho-Slovaks	286		
Brilliant Allied Drives in the West	286		
Early Retreat Certain	286		
The Americans Strike Again	287		
Enemy Lack of Men	287		
How Australia is Financing Herself	287		
New Zealand Notes	288		

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W. A. WATT,
Treasurer.



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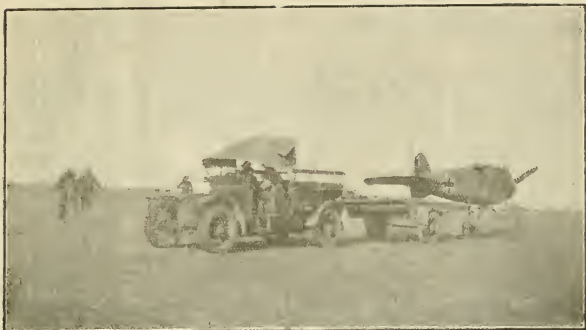
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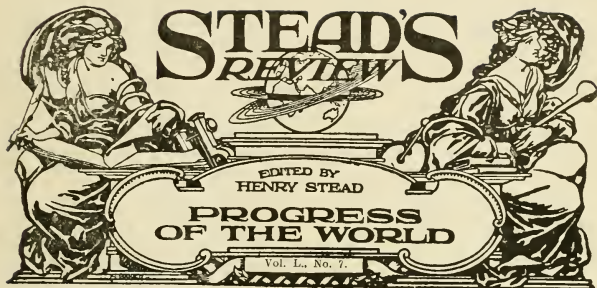
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THE GERMAN AEROPLANE CAPTURED BY OUR PALESTINE FORCES
It had been flying for three years in this war theatre.



SEPTEMBER 28, 1918.

Three Months Ago and To-day.

Much has happened during the last fortnight. The Austrian peace offer has been made, and has been emphatically rejected by America and the Allies. The Hindenburg line has been reached in several places by French and British troops. Two of the "side-shows" have been the scenes of brilliant military achievements; in the one two entire Turkish armies having been wiped out, and in the other Bulgarian forces have been drastically defeated. The adventurous forces which landed recently at Baku has met with disaster, and affairs in Russia continue to go from bad to worse. The military happenings—with the single exception of Baku—give ample cause for cheer, everywhere Allied arms are victorious, and enemy forces are in retreat, disastrous retreat in some places. A few months ago victory seemed to rest always with the hostile armies, and we were naturally depressed. Those who were most pessimistic last July are most optimistic to-day, their feelings being directly related to the scare headings given to the cables. We fly to too great extremes, but it has been my endeavour to avoid this as far as

possible. The Allies have a tremendous lot of hard fighting before them ere they reach the German frontier. Over-confidence and under-estimating the strength of the enemy have been two of the gravest mistakes of the *Entente* people.

The Austrian Peace Offer.

Writing just a fortnight ago I suggested that a peace move was to be expected shortly, but I did not anticipate that a formal offer by Austria would be made a couple of days later. The evening papers published the full text of the Austrian note, but the morning journals gave only a brief summary in a couple of paragraphs. The Note pointed out in its preamble that "all belligerents now long for a speedy end to the bloody struggle," and that therefore "more effective means must be considered by which the responsible factors of all countries can be offered an opportunity to investigate the present possibilities of an understanding." The Note states further that "the distance between the conceptions of the two sides has on the whole somewhat decreased—that de-

spite the continuance of decided and hitherto unbridged differences, a partial turning from many of the extremist concrete war aims is visible, and a certain agreement relative to the general basic principles of world peace manifests itself. In both camps there is undoubtedly observable amongst the peoples the growth of the will to peace by understanding." It points out that demands made by the Allies in reply to the Wilson note, asking for war aims, have been greatly modified in later declarations. Evidently anticipating that President Wilson, in reply to the Note, would point to his announced war aims, the Austro-Hungarian statesmen endeavour to show that his proposal to give autonomy to all the peoples living in their Empire, was no longer regarded as imperative by other Allied statesmen. They assert, "Mr. Balfour, in the House of Commons, expressly recognised that Austro-Hungary must itself solve its internal problems, and nobody could force a constitution on Germany from the outside." The Note goes on, "Mr. Lloyd George, at the beginning of 1918, declared that it was not an Allied war aim to partition Austro-Hungary, or rob the Ottoman Empire of its Turkish provinces, or reform Germany internally." The Note explains that there would be no interruption in war activities whilst discussions were being carried on, and formally proposes that "all belligerent Governments should send delegates to a confidential and non-binding discussion on the basic principles for the conclusion of peace in a neutral country at an early date." It concludes, "All belligerents owe it to humanity jointly to examine whether, after this costly and undecided struggle, whose entire course points to an understanding, it is possible to end this terrible struggle." The translation of the document, which is in French, sent out here is obviously bad, but the general tenor of the Note is doubtlessly accurately conveyed.

The German Peace Terms.

The day before the despatch of the Austrian Peace Note the German Vice-Chancellor, Dr. von Payer, outlined what may be regarded as the official German peace terms. In the course of his speech at Stuttgart, he said Poland and Finland will not be given back to Russia. States on the German frontier and on the Baltic will not be subjected, against their will, to Russian Tsarism. The peace treaties made with Ukraine, Russia and Roumania

will not be submitted for *Entente* revision. Otherwise, territorial possessions existing before the war could everywhere be restored. Germany must receive back her colonies, but the idea of exchange with regard to expediency need not be excluded. As soon as peace was made Germany would evacuate the occupied regions, and restore Belgium, providing she was sure no other state will be more favourably placed there. Germany would not ask for any indemnities, would collaborate as regards the League of Nations, arbitration and disarmament, on sea as well as on land. She would also demand freedom of the sea and sea routes, an open door in all oversea possessions, and the protection of private property at sea.

The Allied Replies.

The first of the Allies to reply was Great Britain, through Mr. Balfour, though he said he spoke only for himself, having had no opportunity of consulting his colleagues. He declared himself "utterly unable to see how conversations could be profitably initiated, and could see nothing acceptable in the present proposals. . . . What is the use of entering upon conversations when Germany is going to demand the return of her colonies? Here is a point on which there can be no misunderstanding. Germany stands on one side, we on the other." The next reply came from France in the form of a speech by M. Clemenceau in the Senate, in the course of which he said: "There can be no victory unless the criminals pay fully for their terrible crimes. . . . France is looking for peace, but one which gives justice to the survivors of the abominable past."

Wilson's Answer, and the Offer to Belgium.

Finally came the authoritative reply of President Wilson, in which he absolutely declined to discuss terms, and referred the Austro-Hungarians to his fourteen articles. So important is the President's declaration that only if the enemy accept these terms in advance will America discuss peace, that I have dealt with them at length in a special article on another page. Immediately after the despatch of the Austrian Note, unofficial offers to Belgium were made by Germany. The exact terms or indeed the exact nature of the proposal are not definitely known. Apparently a separate peace was offered, providing poor, outraged Belgium

endeavoured to convince the Allied Governments of the necessity of returning the German colonies! The Belgian Government scorned the proposition. Apparently peace negotiations are definitely off, and we must be prepared to continue the struggle until Germany has been sufficiently hampered to submit to the terms set out in President Wilson's fourteen articles.

Side-shows.

The fortunes of the Allied forces in the various side-shows have fluctuated greatly since the war began, and many military authorities have been consistently opposed to the using up of men in war theatres in which the final decision would not be won. In the early days, when we needed as many men as we could possibly get together in France, it certainly seemed unwise to send a great expedition to Mesopotamia and another to Salonika. The disaster which almost overwhelmed the early French and British forces landed in northern Greece caused many people to criticise the sending of any troops to Salonika at all, and the unfortunate surrender of an Anglo-Indian army at Kut caused further adverse comment concerning the foolishness of frittering away our strength in side-shows. Now that American armies have arrived in France, and are constantly being swollen by reinforcements from the United States, it is no longer of the first importance that every British and French soldier should be concentrated on the Western front. The Allies already greatly outnumber the Germans, and are obtaining an increasing predominance as each transport from America steams into a European port. It is now possible for assistance to be sent to the armies operating in the Balkans, Palestine and Mesopotamia, and therefore the commanders there can risk operations which, had there been no possibility of securing reinforcements, would probably not have been undertaken.

The Relative Importance of Palestine and the Balkans.

Owing to the more open nature of the fighting Allied commanders in Asia Minor have been able to carry out more spectacular achievements than have their fellows in France. The most brilliant of all the victories won by the Allies is that of General Allenby on the plain of Armageddon the other day. The most spectacular German victories were also obtained where open warfare was possible, in Russia and in

Roumania. The Turk, efficient defensive fighter as he is, is hardly the equal of the German as a soldier, but nevertheless he has shown, on Gallipoli, at Ctesiphon, and before Kut, that he is a stubborn and worthy foe. General Allenby had to rely mainly upon Indian troops who, though fine soldiers, are not the equal of British and French fighters. Some people are rather inclined to discount Allenby's achievement on the ground that he had only Turks to fight. They have also to remember that his own forces were not up to the standard of the magnificent troops of Haig and Petain, yet he has entirely out-manoeuvred and out-generaled the Turks. It is due largely to his cavalry and his command of the air that he was able to surround and capture two entire armies, each 20,000 strong. But brilliant as is the victory over the Turks, it can have no direct effect on the great struggle in Europe. Because the offensive in the Balkans is more likely to directly influence the war, we must regard the advance of the Serbians and their Allies towards Uskub as of greater importance than the fine achievements of Allenby in Palestine. It is somewhat difficult to follow events in the Balkans. This is partly due to the paucity of information which has reached us on the subject, and partly to the lack of efficient maps of Macedonia. In order to understand what is now taking place it is well to have some idea of the position as it was before the recent offensive began.

Some Salonikan History.

French and British troops were originally thrown into Salonika as the result of a promise made by the Allies to succour the hard-pressed Serbs, who were falling back before von Mackensen's onslaught. Comparatively few troops were landed, but they were rushed up by rail along the valley of the Varda in a vain attempt to junction with the retreating Serbs. Instead of helping their fleeing Allies the Anglo-French troops narrowly escaped capture themselves when the Bulgarians thrust across the Varda River. They lost heavily as it was, and only by fierce fighting were able to escape back again to Salonika. They fortified themselves in this place, and reinforcements were sent as rapidly as possible. Fortunately, the Central Powers respected the neutrality of Greece, and did not cross the border. After the conquest of Serbia the Austro-German forces were withdrawn and the occupation

of Serbian Macedonia was left to the Bulgarians. Slowly the Allied forces at Salonika were increased, and ultimately were joined by the remnant of the Serbian army which had fled through Albania, and had been reorganised on the Island of Corfu. The Serbs took up a position in northern Greece, between the Vardla and Lake Ostrova. Shortly before this the Italians had occupied Valona, in Albania, and had advanced eastwards until they were within a few miles of the Grecian frontier. At that time, too, a small Russian contingent appeared at Salonika, so that General Sarraill, when Roumania entered the struggle in August, 1916, had under his command a large but composite army consisting of French, British, Indian, Serbian, Russian, Italian and a few Greek soldiers. In 1916 it was stated that altogether the Allied forces in northern Greece were a million strong. This army had lain inactive for many months waiting, so it was said, the opportune moment to strike. Obviously the incoming of Roumania was the signal for a vigorous offensive by General Sarraill.

When the Diversion was Due.

Instead of waiting to be attacked the Bulgarians commenced operations against the Salonikan army at once. They crossed the Grecian frontier in the east, and occupied Kavala. A Greek army corps stationed there surrendered *en bloc* to the enemy and was transported to Germany. General Sarraill contented himself with strengthening his front along the River Struma, and launched his main attack, not towards Sofia, as had been anticipated, but towards Monastir, the taking of which could have no influence whatever upon the Roumanian situation. The bulk of the fighting was borne by the Serbians, who carried positions deemed impregnable, and soon outflanked the Bulgarian forces defending Monastir and compelled their retirement, whereupon the French, Russians and Italians marched into the place, the Serbians reaching their recovered city some hours later. The campaign against Monastir began early in September, and the place was not occupied until November 19th. Operations were then stopped, as the weather did not permit of further fighting. Even whilst the offensive was being carried on drenching rain and fog greatly interfered with Allied movements. This was the only attempt made by Sarraill to create a diversion in favour of the hard-

pressed Roumanians. In judging him, however, we have to remember that, according to well-known military authorities, he was seriously handicapped by lack of adequate artillery and war material generally, and that he went always with the fear of being stabbed in the back by the Greek army, which was devoted to King Constantine. A great offensive was planned to take place in April, 1917—as part of the general Allied spring campaign—and March was spent in securing advantageous positions from which to launch it. The British forces crossed the Struma River, and took Seres, between Lake Tahinos and Lake Butkovo. Further north they took the main defences of the town of Doiran, but at considerable cost. General Sarraill found it necessary to postpone the date of his general offensive until May, in which month a further attempt on Doiran was made by the British under General Milne. Very heavy casualties resulted, and at the end of May all operations ceased. Very little had been achieved, and once again the great Allied army sank again into inactivity.

The Strength of the Allied Army.

Shortly after King Constantine was deposed by the Allies, and M. Venizelos took control in Greece. Before long the Greeks became our active allies, and today 200,000 or more of them are under the command of General d'Esperey, the Allied Generalissimo in the Balkans. This famous French officer succeeded General Guillaumat, who had followed General Sarraill when the latter was recalled in December, 1917. General Guillaumat was hastily summoned to take charge of the defences of Paris during the German thrust to the Marne. The British forces during 1917 held a 90-mile front from Lake Doiran to the sea. On their left the Greek army appears to have taken up positions, and next to them came the Serbians, then the French, then the Italians. A few weeks ago the Italians began a strong offensive in Albania in conjunction with the French forces. Berat was taken, but Austrian reinforcements speedily arrived and ejected the Italians from the place. No definite information is available as to the strength of the Allied army, but it can hardly be less than three-quarters of a million strong. The Greeks number at least 200,000—probably 250,000. The Serbian army is at least 150,000 strong, and to it must be added the Jugo-Slav

prisoners taken by the Italians, who have volunteered to fight against their former masters, the Austrians. The Italians must have 50,000 men at the very least, as they hold all southern Albania and have to keep the road open from Valona to Monastir. At one time the Anglo-French force was said to number more than 600,000, but it is unlikely that the French and British troops combined now total half that number, nor do we know how strong is the Indian contingent. It is evident, however, that General d'Esperey has a formidable striking force available. The Salonikan army has always been regarded as a sort of "insurance policy" in the Balkans. Its presence restrained King Constantine from siding actively with the Germans, prevented hostile submarines from using the ports of Hellas. Had they been able to do so traffic in the eastern Mediterranean would have been almost impossible, and the position of our army in Palestine and the forces in Egypt itself would have been seriously compromised. The fact that it was on the spot was always a threat against the Bulgars. It forced them to keep their armies in the field; kept them at perpetual tension, for they knew that at some moment when they were least able to defend themselves, it would be launched against them. And, lastly, had it not been there the Serbs would have had no rallying point. The Jugo-Slavs have had little hope of ultimate liberation from Austrian domination. It was a very costly side-show, but it long ago justified itself, and holds great future possibilities, may yet strike the enemy one of the greatest blows they have suffered.

The Serbs Win Back Their Own.

The present offensive was launched on Sunday, September 15th, the main attack being delivered by the Serbians, who struck northwards between Monastir and the Varda River. The Bulgarian line was broken, and the Serbs advanced rapidly along the Cherna River, the French co-operating on their left and the British delivering an attack east of the Varda on their right. The Bulgarians, despite the arrival of reinforcements, hastily withdrew, and in doing so abandoned many guns and lost many prisoners. In four days the Serbians and their Allies had reconquered 375 square miles of territory. By their advance along the Cherna River the Serbs

outflanked the Bulgarian defenders of Prilep, which place was occupied by Serbian cavalry. Further west, the Serbs reached the Varda valley, and pushing along it are now reported to have reached Veles. More important still, they have crossed the Varda, and have captured Ishtip, thirteen miles east of Veles. By so doing they have apparently cut the Bulgarian line of retreat eastwards. Whether they have thereby captured an army depends upon the speed with which the Bulgars fled. By thrusting this great wedge northwards towards Veles, the Serbs split the Bulgarian first army in twain. One-half retreated north-west towards Albania, where there seems to be a strong Austrian force; the other fled towards the Varda in the direction of the Bulgarian frontier. Cables tell us that the Italians have surrounded the portion which was endeavouring to reach Albania, but as far as one can gather from the official reports the Italian troops did not occupy positions which enabled them to do this. They may have got some thousands of prisoners, but hardly the entire army. The other portion which hurried in confusion through the Babuna Pass may have found it impossible to reach the Varda before the Serbian cavalry got there, and if so would be compelled to flee northward to Uskub. Owing to the congestion of the few roads available, and the advantage the Serbs have in being able to use the Varda valley, the flying Bulgars will likely be entrapped. The rapid Serbian advance compelled the Bulgars on the Varda north of Doiran to withdraw, and British troops at last occupied this place, which has so long been a thorn in their side, and has cost them such heavy losses at different times. Greek and British forces pushed up the Varda valley and reached Gradetz, where they probably junctioned with the Serbs—though whether they did or not is not quite clear from the cables. Advancing northward from Doiran British cavalry quickly reached the Bulgarian frontier, and, crossing it, are probably now in possession of Strumnitza. Once our troops had reached Gradetz the Bulgarians had to fall back north of the Strumnitza River or risk capture. Strumnitza is situated in the toe of the promontory of Bulgarian territory, which, by the terms of the Treaty of Bucharest (1913), was allowed to jut westwards into Serbian Macedonia. The capture of the entire promontory would affect the situation little. Its invasion certainly does not justify the

hopes expressed that the way to Sofia has been opened to us.

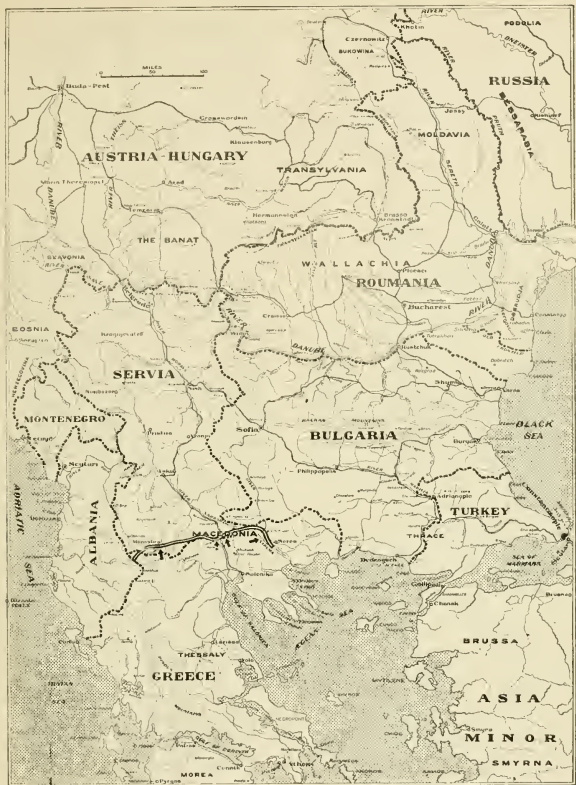
What Will Follow This Victory?

The question being asked everywhere is whether this bold Serbian advance is the beginning of a campaign which will end with the smashing of Bulgaria, and threaten the invasion of Austria itself, or is merely a highly successful local operation. It is a question which no one can answer at the moment, though the position should be clearer in a few days. We are assured that the Bulgarians are flying helter-skelter, and are utterly demoralised, but the official enemy communiques, whilst admitting the successes of the Allies, declare that once the Bulgarian line had been broken through retirement to other defensive positions was begun, and apparently suggest that there is no great Bulgarian rout. The large captures of guns show, however, that the retreat, which may have begun in an orderly manner, degenerated into a *sauve qui peut*, and that, as far as the particular army in question is concerned, complete demoralisation seems to have taken place. But it does not follow that because one part of their forces fled Bulgarian resistance as a whole is collapsing. On the Isonzo Italian rout at one time seemed to have involved all King Victor's troops, and the collapse of the Fifth British army in Picardy appeared to be serious. But the Italians rallied on the Piave, the Germans did not get to Amiens. Their first army having broken, the Bulgars will be compelled to abandon southern Serbia, but such abandonment does not imperil the safety of Sofia or permit formidable invasion of Bulgaria proper. The further east of the Varda Allied troops advance the more difficult will the maintenance of their communications become. In October, as we know from bitter experience, the weather in the Balkans is ill-suited for campaigning, and by the middle of November winter puts an end to active operations. It may be that the Bulgars will not attempt to oppose Allied advance further, but the probabilities are that they will hasten all available troops to the scene of action, calling on their Allies for help if necessary.

Will the Bulgars Stand?

Cables tell of rumoured disputes between Bulgaria and Turkey over the Roumanian spoils. The Bulgars, it appears, refuse

to accept with thankfulness the rewards offered them by Germany for the help which enabled von Mackensen to smash the Roumanian armies. We are told that there was much dissatisfaction in Bulgaria with the Central Powers. If this be really so it is quite probable that German leaders may view initial Bulgarian defeat with some equanimity, just as they regarded Austrian defeats at the hands of the Russians for some time. Austria had to implore them for assistance, and only got it at a price, but when it was given it proved highly effective. Possibly the disgruntled Bulgars will not be greatly helped until they come to heel behind Germany. On the other hand, it was obviously dangerous for the Central Powers if Bulgaria were invaded and suffered disaster; therefore ere that stage is reached we may look for the arrival of heavy Austro-German reinforcements and ample supplies of artillery and aeroplanes. One would assume that the Bulgarians, driven from new Serbia, would take up a naturally strong defensive line protecting their own frontier in the east, and barring access to Serbia proper in the north. Such a line would run from Lake Tahinos to Demirhissar, thence across the before-mentioned promontory of Bulgarian territory to the heights north of the Strumnitsa River. From there it would follow the Plachkovitza hills, which lie some ten miles east of Ishtip, to Kumanovo, north-east of Uskub. Possibly, it would run north of this place, and then due west to Prisrend, on the northern border of Albania. This line would be about the same length as that the Bulgars have been holding for the last couple of years, and it would be much nearer their main bases. General d'Esperey, though, would hardly venture to advance as far north as Prisrend without first accounting for the Austrian army in Albania. If the Allies are able to push eastwards from Ishtip to the Bulgarian border, and across it, it would indicate that serious demoralisation has spread through the Bulgar armies. If on the other hand, advancing beyond Ishtip, they encounter strong resistance some ten miles to the east, then we may take it that the rout is ended, and formidable opposition is before us. Even a demoralised Bulgaria would put some sort of a fight on the Struma River, but if the Allies get as far as that it would require powerful German reinforcements to prevent our forces reaching Sofia. The important



things to watch are—(1) the doings of the Austrian army in Albania, (2) the extent of the Allied advance east of the Vardar. Ere these lines appear Uskub will probably be in Serbian hands. The accompanying map indicates how far the Allies still have to go before they seriously threaten communications between Berlin and Constantinople.

War-Wearied Bulgars.

There can be no doubt of course that the Bulgars are utterly sick of fighting. They began in 1912, just exactly six years ago, and, with brief pauses, have been at it ever since. They bore the brunt of the fighting against the Turks, and suffered the heaviest losses. Then having won most of Macedonia and Salonika, they refused

to part with this spoil to their Allies, and the latter proceeded to fight them for it. Against Serbia and Greece alone the Bulgars might have held their own, but attacked in the rear by Roumania, they collapsed after suffering severe losses. Deprived of the territory they coveted, and despoiled of some of their ancient lands, the Bulgars waited their opportunity, and joined the Central Powers, with their aid reconquering all that they had lost save Salonika. But these continuous wars must have drained the life-blood of the people, and have sickened them of fighting. For six years, with brief intervals, all Bulgarian men of fighting age have been separated from their families, and have suffered hardships and privations. Large numbers must have been wounded, and others have fallen victims to sickness, for the medical provisions of the Balkan peoples are nothing like as efficient as those of the other combatants. In the Balkan wars the Bulgarians put 300,000 troops into the field, and older reserves and militia were also employed under arms. It is hardly likely that more than 300,000 men all told are now available for the armies. During the six years 150,000 youths have reached military age, but these recruits must be more than counterbalanced by casualties. In strong, defensive positions 300,000 soldiers might be able to successfully defend themselves against 750,000, but in more or less open warfare they would have little chance. If, therefore, the Allied troops are able to force Bulgar defensive lines the hostile armies must be overwhelmed unless they receive reinforcements from Austria, Germany and Turkey. Not much news has come from Bulgaria during the last few months, but rumours of grave dissatisfaction with Tsar Ferdinand and his Government trickle through from neutral sources. Astute Ferdinand, we know, has withdrawn from Sofia, and is living in Austria, whilst Prime Minister Rodoslavoff resigned recently. If behind the hammered and flying army is a discontented and grumbling people, which has already thrown over those mainly responsible for the alliance with Germany, complete collapse and a formal demand for peace is by no means unlikely. Germany could then only prevent her ally making terms with the *Entente* by rushing heavy reinforcements to the Balkans and agreeing to the territorial demands of the Bulgars. The Bulgarians,

peasant proprietors for the most part, are better suited to set up a republican form of government than any other Balkan people. If they are determined to do this in spite of their Tsar and the Kaiser, then they will try to make peace at the first opportunity, for it is not the people but their rulers who embroil countries in war. A war-weary people determined in future to rule itself will make great sacrifices to secure peace.

Allenby's Brilliant Victory.

Somehow or other most of us, owing no doubt to our early Biblical instruction, regard Palestine as a fairly large place, and we are surprised when we learn that from the Jordan to the sea averages less than forty miles, and that from Acre to Beer-sheba is only 120 miles. Actually the scene of General Allenby's brilliant exploit is an area little greater in extent than Port Phillip Bay. It is a rough square, with the Mediterranean on one side, the Jordan on the other, the old British front on the south, and a line from Acre to the Jordan on the north. For the sake of clearness we can call the base from the Jordan to the sea AB, the Mediterranean side BC, the northern side CD, and the Jordan DA. The British front was along AB, and the attack against the Turkish positions was delivered a few miles east of B, almost along the sea coast. Here Allenby launched his infantry which broke through the strong Turkish defences opposite. The cavalry poured through the gap thus made and, advancing rapidly along the sea coast turned eastward towards Samaria, situated almost at the centre of the square. By so doing, they enveloped the Turkish forces on the western half of AB, and compelled them to retreat rapidly towards the Jordan. Meantime, however, General Allenby pushed troops northwards from A and cut the Turkish communications with the river. The Turkish forces, just east of the spot where the infantry had broken through, were speedily surrounded, and laid down their arms, but the army north and east of Samaria endeavoured to make its escape by withdrawing rapidly in the direction of Lake Tiberius, which is represented by D in our imaginary square. In order to prevent its escape the cavalry pushed northwards and soon reached Nazareth, situated between Acre and Lake Tiberius, but somewhat to the south. By

the capture of this place the Anglo-Indian forces got astride the northern roads of retreat, and compelled the harassed Turks to fly due east towards the Jordan. There was still a chance of their getting safely across, but, just in time, the troops from the south who had been sent along the Jordan reached Aisreedanich, where the passage had to be made, and completed the ring round the enemy armies. Altogether 40,000 Turks were captured, although not all of these were fighting men. The cavalry quickly covered the seventeen miles from Nazareth to Acre in the west, and the fifteen miles to Lake Tiberius in the east, establishing thus a complete connection between the Jordan and the sea. The important port of Haifa was also occupied. It gives the Palestine army a new and useful base, as there is a commodious harbour there, which Jaffa, our previous base on the coast, lacks.

On the Other Side Jordan.

Having disposed of the two Turkish armies in Palestine proper, General Allenby turned his attention to the smaller army which was operating east of the Jordan. It was this army which inflicted a slight reverse on our troops at Es Salt some time ago. In his operations against it the British General had the assistance of Arab irregulars, who are always anxious to be on the winning side, as we found to our cost at Ctesiphon and Kut. These Arabs seized the important railway junction of Derat, a little more than thirty miles east of Lake Tiberius. By so doing they interrupted communications between the Turkish army and Damascus. The Turks then retreated southwards down the railway and our troops, crossing the Jordan, occupied Es Salt. The Arabs coming up from the south seized the railway junction at Amman and thus prevented Turkish retreat in this direction. Latest reports suggest that the whole of this Turkish army, some 10,000 strong, is likely to fall into our hands. This signal victory clears the whole of Palestine of the Turks, and brings our forces within sixty miles of Damascus. The Syrian hills, however, lie between, and if the Turks are not too demoralised, they are likely to be able to prevent our further advance for some time. The loss of three armies, totalling altogether 50,000 men, together with large numbers of guns and much war material, cannot but seriously injure German prestige in Turkey. We are always hearing

rumours of Turkish dissatisfaction with the enemy War Lords, and if such really exists, Allenby's victory must strengthen the anti-German party in Constantinople. On the other hand, if the Turks are bitter against the Germans, they are not likely to be any less hostile to those who have wrested provinces from them. They cannot but realise that their only hope of reconquering these lies in obtaining German assistance. They have, it is true, lost Palestine, but they have gained territory three times as extensive in the Caucasus, and in addition have possessed themselves of the greatest oil producing area in Europe. They may regard this as some compensation, and not make any serious attempt to get back the Holy Land.

End of the Baku Venture.

What, at the time, seemed a very hazardous enterprise has ended, unfortunately. As I pointed out at the time, the despatch of troops to Baku *via* Persia presented no serious difficulties, but their maintenance there would be almost impossible. Our forces were admittedly poorly supplied with artillery, and counted apparently on the fact that the opposing Turks were also ill-equipped. But the possession of Baku was important not merely to the Turks but to the Germans also, and it was therefore certain that the required cannon and war material for the hostile army would be quickly forthcoming. The reinforced Turks appear to have attacked strongly, and the Armenians, for whose sake the British expedition was sent, quickly weakened, and opened negotiations for the handing over of the oil city to the enemy. Under these circumstances evacuation was the only course open. Here, however, difficulties appear to have arisen, for the ships on which the English and Indian troops had arrived belonged to the Russians. In the end, however, these appear to have supplied the necessary shipping, and, after a fierce fight, in which certain regiments suffered heavy loss, the force embarked and got away. The Turks are now in possession of the oil wells and the city, and appear to have occupied the whole of Transcaucasia save for a few mountainous districts where Circassians and Armenians still hold out. Nothing more has been heard of the Indian army which was approaching the Caspian Sea through Northern Persia. The capture of Baku is a necessary step in

the carrying out of the Hamburg-Herat, or Berlin-Bokara dream of the Germans. Its possession will no doubt enable them to dominate the Caspian and possibly the central Asiatic provinces of Russia. It is to defeat this that the Indian army above-mentioned was started for the Caspian.

The Parlous Case of the Czecho-Slovaks.

The position of the Czecho-Slovaks in the central Volga district is becoming more serious every day. As long as it was merely a fight between the former Austrian prisoners of war and the Bolsheviks the chances were with the Czecho-Slovaks. They were well trained in arms, their numbers were being constantly swollen by the arrival of other Slavs, formerly in the Austrian army who had been taken prisoners by the Muscovites on their western front, and my numerous Russians who were anxious to upset Lenin and Trotsky. Neither side was well equipped with cannon and machine guns, neither could obtain these necessary weapons, therefore superior military skill was the deciding factor, and the star of the Czecho-Slovaks and their supporters was in the ascendant. But the Allied intervention in Russia and Siberia—largely undertaken with the idea of assisting these very Czecho-Slovaks—caused the Germans to become interested in the fight, and, unfortunately, the Teutons are in a position to supply arms and leaders to the Red Guards whilst the Allies cannot send support to the Czecho-Slovaks. The situation is aggravated by the setting up of a pro-German Government in the province of the Don Cossacks just south of the district where the Czecho-Slovaks are operating. An army impregnated with Bolshevik ideas is hardly likely to be a formidable or efficient fighting force, and the Germans can do little unless discipline can be enforced. Hunger, however, is a great disciplinarian and danger is another. The two combined may assist the Teutons in fashioning an army in Russia which will have to be reckoned with. It is exceedingly difficult to follow the doings of the Japanese and Allied troops in Siberia. In Russia proper our forces are advancing from Archangel southwards along the Dwina, but the near approach of winter makes further progress or extended operations unlikely.

Brilliant Allied Drives in the West.

After a fortnight of slight gains which brought the British forces up to the Hin-

denburg line, between St. Quentin and Cambrai, Foch suddenly delivered a series of simultaneous blows against the German defences from the Chemin des Dames to Ypres. Though at the time of writing the famous front has not been broken at any point between the two towns, British troops have thrust past the German defensive line, which they took up after General Byng's attack last year, when it will be recalled he broke the Hindenburg line with his tanks. The capture of Bourlon Wood now is a very different matter to what it was then. General Byng had advanced much farther than anticipated, and, although, after a terrific struggle, his forces took the hill on which the wood stands, the British defensive arrangements in the territory won were not got ready rapidly enough to stem the enemy counter-attack. Now, however, Allied advance is systematic and regular. There is no danger of the enemy winning back this dominant position, and its retention means the early capture of Cambrai, which the Germans will almost certainly evacuate. Its fall does not, in itself, compel the enemy to abandon St. Quentin, but, combined with French advance on to the Chemin des Dames, and American success on the Meuse, makes a speedy retirement from the place practically certain. The loss of Cambrai will seriously hamper the enemy, as it is a far more important centre than St. Quentin. Presumably, they have a defensive line ready to fall back on, but definite information as to where it runs has never been given. Douai lies on a plain, and offers few natural advantages for defence. If, however, it, too, is abandoned, the enemy would hardly be able to still hold on to Lille, which has long been their main distributing centre in Northern France.

Early Retreat Certain.

If the Anglo-Belgians at Ypres succeed in thrusting eastwards as far as Roulers, then we may look for the abandonment of Menin, Tourcoing, Roubaix and Lille by the Germans, within the next few days. To cover their Channel ports the enemy would be forced to hold a line somewhere along the Belgian frontier, but they will likely make a stand west of that border. The final defensive position they would take up is that of the Meuse, which is regarded as almost impregnable—though nowadays no front can be assumed to be invulnerable. It is a long way, though.

from Cambrai to Liege, and every foot the enemy are driven back the more concentrated they become, and the greater, therefore, their power of resistance becomes. The French are slowly pushing in the German outposts south of St. Quentin, but have not yet reached the Hindenburg line, although they are now close to it. Farther south between Soissons and Laon they have pushed across the old German defences, and are now nearer Laon than they have ever been before. Their advance here threatens the German positions on the Chemin des Dames, and, combined with the American thrust along the Meuse, will make it very dangerous for the enemy High Command to retain possession of Laon. Had there been no American advance, and had the French found it impossible to force their way through the wooded hills north-east of Soissons, the Germans could still have held St. Quentin and Laon, despite the British successes at Cambrai. We may expect a general enemy withdrawal from their old front in France within the next few days, but it must necessarily be some time before we learn where their next stand is going to be made. They will go to it fighting, and will make every attempt to delay our reaching it until winter sets in.

The Americans Strike Again.

The American offensive north-west of Verdun has already met with great success. Striking northwards between the Meuse and the Aisne the American troops drove through the German defences to a depth of seven miles. This advance gave them Montfaucon and Gercourt, the former a large village, the latter a hamlet in the valley of the Meuse, and many other places which have been in German hands since 1914. The Meuse valley must have been cleared of the enemy for five miles or more, a most important success, as the Meuse line is regarded as likely to be that on which the final German stand is made. Advance on the Aisne was not so great, but west of that river the French record notable successes. The possibilities which lie behind this thrust are great. In Picardy, in Flanders, in the Argonne district, Allied troops can throw themselves against the enemy defences and make considerable advances without seriously endangering the German position. The enemy can give back for many miles, and the Allies would still be far from any vital spot. The American drive, however, if it continues, and the

seven miles advance is increased to twenty or thirty, will compel the Germans to abandon their positions north of Rheims, force them indeed to withdraw from the Hindenburg line itself. This offensive is a blow delivered behind the contemplated enemy fronts which were to be taken up if the Hindenburg line could not be held. Far greater rewards would be won by victory in this drive along the Meuse than could be gained by the most remarkable of successes in Picardy.

Enemy Lack of Men.

Not only does the American advance threaten all the enemy communications with Laon and Rethel, but it brings the Allies nearer to Longwy, which is situated at the northern end of the famous Briey iron field. True, the Americans are much closer to this field further south, but we may assume that the enemy defences north of Thiaucourt and Pont-a-Mousson are much more formidable than they are further north, in which direction attack was not expected. The main threat, however, given by the Americans, is against the enemy communications in rear of their battle front in France. So serious is this threat that we may be sure the Germans will endeavour by heavy concentrations of men and guns to prevent further Allied advance at this point, it being more important for them to stop the American offensive than to hold the Hindenburg line. It is just here that lack of sufficient man power is likely to prove fatal to the Germans. The great superiority of the Allies in numbers enables them to attack in formidable manner in three or four places at once. Hitherto two offensives at a time were the most they could manage, and the Germans did not find it difficult to throw in their reserves rapidly. Now, however, with reserves depleted, German High Command is called on to counter several Allied blows at once, and finds the task too great. The only alternative to finding men is to shorten the front the available soldiers have to defend, and, urged thereto by the American achievement, the hostile leaders will probably be obliged to take that course, though they are likely to try and postpone drastic withdrawal till after the winter is over if they can contrive to do so.

How Australia is Financing Herself.

The need for finding money wherewith to pay interest on war loans and war pensions made it necessary for Mr. Watt, the

Federal Treasurer, to notably increase taxation. In his Budget speech he explained that no less than £5,356,000 would have to be raised by new taxation, and proceeded to outline what his proposals were. Income tax is to be raised by 30 per cent. all round—that is to say, a man who paid £100 tax last year will have to pay £130 on the same income this. Land tax is to go up by 20 per cent. The increase in Income Tax is expected to bring in £2,200,000, and in Land Tax £380,000. Even with this heavy additional impost Australians will be paying considerably less than Englishmen have been doing for some time past. So next year when the interest on another £80,000,000 loan money, and additional war pensions have to be met, another 30 per cent. increase is to be anticipated. Additional duties on liquor and tobacco are looked to to bring in £1,895,000, and the extension of the amusement tax to cover 3d. and 6d. tickets is expected to yield £275,000. Following the lead of Great Britain the Treasurer has decided to impose a postage war tax of a halfpenny on letters, letter-cards, postcards, newspapers and packets. This is estimated to bring in £516,000. In order to make certain that the war loan is fully subscribed Mr. Watt proposes to bring in a compulsory measure under which all persons will be forced to subscribe to the war loan according to their means. This may be regarded as a form of conscription of wealth, which should find favour with the Labour Party. It is, after all, a fair thing, but the comments on the proposal now being made are rather amusing reading taken side by side with the remarks made concerning enemy methods of raising money by compulsion in the early days of the war—a method which apparently they did not adopt after all. Mr. Watt is certainly to be congratulated on the boldness of his first Federal Budget.

New Zealand Notes.

An attempt will be made to give all members of the Main Body short furlough. This is a complete change of attitude on the part of high officials, and may not be

unconnected with the improved situation within the war zone. The intimation has been well received, and although the Minister of Defence has stressed the difficulties of returning fit men when every wounded man must be shipped home as quickly as possible, it is hoped that the first away may be the first home.

Fifteen years ago, when New Zealand was famous for interesting innovations, one of the Auckland suburban boroughs elected Mrs. Yates as Mayor. She was the first woman to preside in such a capacity, and as is often the case with pioneers, her term of office was rather exciting. By virtue of her office Mrs. Yates was the first woman Justice of the Peace in the Empire. The late Queen Victoria wrote a letter to the pioneer, who passed away a few days ago at the age of 78. Her husband had also occupied the same mayoral chair—a record which will take some beating.

The question of Japanese competition in cotton and woollen goods is creating some discussion. Imports are increasing, and so is the price. A leading merchant has put the position thus: "Japan is exploiting us here because she holds the whip hand. She will be able to hold a good proportion of this war-gained trade after the war, because she has the shipping freight available. At present her prices approach British rates. After the war, however, she will be able to reduce them by 200 or 300 per cent. and still make a profit." The quality is said to be constantly improving.

The next New Zealand War Loan will be placed on the market either in December or January. The Acting Minister of Finance has intimated that the number of defaulters who come under the compulsory clauses of the Finance Act is comparatively small. The sovereign of 1914 for the three food groups—meat, groceries and dairy products—is still shrinking, and is now worth 13s. 6½d. The mining crisis is in temporary eclipse, the mine-owners, under Government pressure, having decided to meet the Miners' Federation in conference. A settlement is anticipated.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1918.

Is it the Beginning of the End?

Since the above notes were written the news has come through that Bulgaria is suing for peace. Her Prime Minister asked for an armistice—which was refused

by General d'Esperey—and her peace plenipotentiaries are reported to be now on the way to Allied headquarters. This peace proposal is being carefully considered by Great Britain and her Allies. Great possibilities lie behind the Bulgarian

request. As already mentioned, the Bulgars are reported very dissatisfied with the Central Powers and Turkey, they are excessively war-weary, and they undoubtedly see an opportunity of getting off lightly themselves, and also of escaping from what is evidently irksome Teutonic domination. Allied statesmen themselves admit that in the negotiations which preceded the entry of Bulgaria into the war they blundered seriously. They now have an opportunity of retrieving the position which they lost at that time. We do not know, of course, what the Allied attitude is going to be, but obviously it would be an immense gain for us if Bulgaria could be entirely severed from the Central Powers, and if Allied troops could traverse her territory to strike northwards at Austria and eastwards at Constantinople. It is worth some sacrifice to achieve that result quickly. If Allied terms are excessively hard, Bulgaria may elect to continue the struggle, and we must remember that Germany will be exerting every possible pressure to induce the Bulgars to go on fighting. If, however, the Allies will consider peace, more or less on the basis of the *status quo ante bellum*, leaving the Bulgars a port on the Aegean, but depriving them perhaps of the Strumnitza promontory, and the territory Roumania obtained from them in 1913, which they have since reconquered, a speedy settlement is likely. A condition would be, of course, that Allied troops could traverse Bulgarian territory, and the restitution and restoration of Serbian Macedonia would be demanded. As all the territory over which Tsar Ferdinand held sway when the war started is peopled by Bulgarians, it is difficult to see how the Allies can deprive them of any of it save, perhaps, here and there of some strategic point. No doubt they would insist on the dethronement of Ferdinand, but if recent reports of the feeling in Bulgaria be correct, his people are anxious to set up a republic.

A Significant Withdrawal.

The chief danger the Allied armies advancing into Southern Serbia had to face was the Austrian army in Albania. Had the Bulgars taken up a strong defensive line east of the Vardar this army would almost certainly have rushed against the Allied line from Monastir to Uskub, and the Serbs and French would have been hard put to it to hold the long but narrow wedge they had thrust northwards.

Cables announce, however, that the Austrian army is evacuating Albania, evidently fearing to be cut off from its bases by the defection of Bulgaria. This hasty withdrawal of the Austrians is the best proof we could possibly have that the Bulgarians intend to make peace. If they do, what would the position be? Direct communication between the Teutons and the Turks by land would be completely cut, and Allied troops would speedily be before the walls of Constantinople. The Turks could, of course, rapidly withdraw their main armies from the Caucasus and Persia, where they are now operating, and concentrate them in Thrace, to protect Constantinople from Allied attack by land. Such a force could, of course, get guns and munitions from Germany via the Black Sea. On the other hand the collapse of Bulgaria following on their own serious defeats in Palestine and Mesopotamia, would almost certainly induce the Turks to sue for peace in their turn. Allied conditions are, however, likely to be hard, and Germany will put forth strenuous efforts to prevent Turkey breaking away. It may be then that peace with Turkey will have to await Allied capture of Constantinople, but that peace proposals from the Sultan will immediately follow the conclusion of peace with Bulgaria is almost certain.

Strike at Germany Through Austria.

The hammer blows being delivered in France by Foch make it almost impossible for Germany to send help to Austria, which will have to meet the drive of d'Esperey north of Uskub into Serbia proper practically unaided. Presumably the Allies would not regard Roumania as a neutral country, but would cross the Danube into Wallachia without any hesitation. If that be so then north-western Bulgaria is likely to be a battle-ground before long. The Austro-Germans may elect to evacuate Serbia entirely, and stand wholly on the defensive along the Danube. If Roumania were looked on as a neutral this would be the shortest line, and would recall the position in the early days of the war before von Mackensen's drive. Those who urged at that time that the Serbians should have been strongly reinforced to enable them to invade Austria see in the present situation ample justification of their old contention that the surest way of striking Germany was to thrust at Austria and give her subject races a real chance of asserting them-

selves. However, as Roumanian and Bulgarian territory will not be regarded as neutral by the Allies the Austrians are likely to attempt to hold a line from Montenegro across old Serbia and north-west Bulgaria to the Danube. Their front would follow that river to Silistria, and then run to the Black Sea. What the Roumanians will do when Allied forces appear south of the Danube remains to be seen. Only if Bulgaria is able to secure recogni-

tion of her neutrality after making peace are the Austro-Germans likely to be able to hold old Serbia and Roumania. As a Bulgaria whose territory was not traversable would entirely protect Constantinople from attack, the use of Bulgar roads and railways by their troops is sure to be one of the first peace conditions of the Allies. The withdrawal of Bulgaria from the Quadruple Alliance may well prove to be the beginning of the end of the war.

BRINGING PEACE NEARER.

When President Wilson entirely refused to consider the Austrian peace proposal, and referred that Government to his fourteen articles, those who had carefully followed his speeches and declarations could not but feel disappointed. This feeling was tempered, it is true, by the knowledge that the President was *au fait* with every phase of the situation, whereas we had to be guided only by the reports and comments which reached Australia. His whole conduct ever since 1914, when he was called on to take up the exceedingly difficult and thankless role as defender of neutral rights, has been marked by absolute candour and consistent uprightness, and his refusal to discuss peace, despite his previous statements concerning the advisability of so doing, could only have been dictated, we felt sure, by entirely adequate considerations. His speech on Saturday gives ample explanation, and discloses him as an even greater statesman than he had appeared before. He is undoubtedly the greatest man produced by the war, and this is fortunate, for he is the leader of a mighty nation which will have the dominant say in the future re-arrangement of the world.

In his speech in New York he insisted that "there must be impartial justice shown in every item of the peace settlement, no matter whose interest is crossed, not only impartial justice, but also the satisfaction of the several peoples whose fortunes are dealt with." An indispensable instrumentality which is to secure final and permanent peace is a league of nations. He regards the constitution of that league as the most essential part of the peace settlement itself. It cannot be formed now, for it would be "merely a new alliance confined to the nations associated against a common enemy." He then proceeded to tell of the five fundamental things which were to

guide us in making peace. He stated them authoritatively as representing the American Government's interpretation of its own duty, with regard to peace.

These fundamentals are so immensely important that I have delayed going to press with this number in order to include them in our pages. They undoubtedly bring peace much nearer, for if known in Austria and Germany would utterly dispel those fears of boycott, of hostile discrimination, of exclusion from world trade which have enabled the enemy military leaders to keep their people solid behind them. They finally dispel, too, the unquiet feeling of many in *Entente* countries that the end proposed by certain Allied statesmen would not bring peace to the world, but would bring further unrest, and in time another war. "A victor's terms imposed upon the vanquished," said President Wilson, some time ago, "would be accepted in humiliation, under duress, at an intolerable sacrifice, and would leave a sting of resentment—a bitter memory upon which the terms of peace would rest, but only as upon a quicksand." Above all, did the talk of a trade war against Germany, of boycotts, of refusal to permit her people to have access to the raw materials of the world seem to point to an indefinite prolongation of the struggle and to the final conclusion of a peace based on a quicksand. To attempt to permanently bottle up 130,000,000 energetic and pushful individuals who had become great industrial peoples was bound ultimately to bring about catastrophic conditions which would again destroy the peace of the world. President Wilson is absolutely determined that peace when it does come is to be a lasting one, and we see the youngest of all great nations taking a stand which will inevitably make it the arbitrator of the world. We cannot but rejoice that this is so, and

hope that the *Entente* Powers will speedily announce their entire adhesion to the five fundamentals which President Wilson has declared to be the imperative basis of future peace. They are as follows:—

(1) The impartial justice meted out must involve no discrimination between those to whom we wish to be just, and those to whom we do not wish to be just. It must be a justice that plays no favourites and knows no standard but the equal rights of the several people concerned.

That is to say, that after Germany has made restitution for the invasion of Belgium and northern France, and for other damage done, she would not thereafter be discriminated against any more than Great Britain, France or the United States herself.

(2) No special or separate interest of any single nation or any group of nations, can be made the basis of any part of the settlement which is not consistent with the common interest of all.

(3) There can be no leagues or alliances or special covenants and understandings within the general and common family of the league of nations.

America, that is to say, will set her face against the *Mittel Europa* customs union idea, as also against a league formed solely of *Entente* Powers. In fact, anything which tends to create rival groups will be barred.

(4) And more specifically there can be no special, selfish, economic combinations within the league, and no employment of any form of economic boycott or exclusion except as the power of economic penalty by exclusion from the markets of the world may be vested in the league of nations itself, as a means of discipline and control.

The boycott, the refusal of raw materials, is to be preserved as one of the main weapons of the League of Peace to force recalcitrant Powers to heel, and inferentially is not to be used by individual nations, or groups of nations, against each other.

(5) All international agreements and treaties of every kind must be made known in their entirety to the rest of the world. Special alliances and economic rivalries and hostilities have been the prolific source in the modern world of the plans and passions that produce war. It would be an insincere as well as insecure peace that did not exclude them in definite and binding terms.

In order to avoid a fertile cause of war the President again insists, as he has con-

stantly insisted before, that there shall be no secret treaties and agreements. Secret negotiations and diplomacy may be used in concluding a treaty or agreement between nations, but the document itself must be published to the world. That is the American method, enforced by the Constitution. No treaty with the United States can be finally ratified until the Senate has given its approval. Discussion of the treaty in the Senate secures complete knowledge of its terms by the people of America. Thus it is to be throughout the world in future.

It is cheering to find that Mr. Asquith, who remains one of the greatest forces in Great Britain, speaking at about the same time the President was announcing his five fundamentals, took very much the same line. He said:—

The more confident our faith in victory is, the more it behoves us to be on guard that our unexampled sacrifices are not wasted or frittered away. They will be frittered away unless we can procure a clean peace, that is a peace which does not offend the conscience either of the victim or the rest of mankind. We can have no clean peace if there is to be a continuation of veiled war, or a peace which is designed to inflict permanent humiliation and dismemberment on the enemy. Such a peace can only be a precarious armistice.

Let us hope that Mr. Hughes was present, and listened to this powerful denunciation of his pet proposal! Mr. Asquith went on to state that he considered the Austrian peace offer a genuine proposal, but not a practical proposition. He had not such a horror of secret diplomacy as some of his friends, and was prepared to explore any and every avenue of peace. The Austrians, he suggested, might have a more acceptable proposal to make shortly. He was against a general election in England till the war was over, and said, "Nothing in the war suggests that we would be better off after peace by any system of tariffs, whether preferential, differential, punitive or prohibitive."

It is significant that the Bulgarians contemplate appealing to President Wilson—the United States is not at war with Bulgaria—in order to secure peace with the Allies on the lines of his declarations. Undoubtedly the bold announcement of the five fundamentals, the outcome of deliberate and careful counsel by American leaders, as the necessary basis on which peace negotiations must be carried out, brings peace far nearer than it seemed last week.

THE FAMOUS FOURTEEN ARTICLES.

The following are the fourteen articles which President Wilson, in his reply to the Austrian Peace Note, declared must be accepted by the Central Powers before any Peace discussions could take place. A careful comparison of these with enemy declarations has had to be held over.

(1) Covenants of peace, openly arrived at, after which there shall be no private international understandings of any kind, but diplomacy shall proceed always frankly and in the public view.

(2) Absolute freedom of navigation upon the seas outside territorial waters, alike in peace and in war, except as the seas may be closed in whole or in part by international action for the enforcement of international covenants.

(3) The removal, so far as possible, of all economic barriers, and the establishment of an equality of trade conditions among all the nations consenting to the peace and associating themselves for its maintenance.

(4) Adequate guarantees, given and taken, that national armaments will be reduced to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety.

(5) A free, open-minded and absolutely impartial adjustment of all colonial claims, based upon a strict observance of the principle that in determining all such questions of sovereignty the interests of the populations concerned must have equal weight with the equitable claims of the Government whose title is to be determined.

(6) The evacuation of all Russian territory, and such a settlement of all questions affecting Russia as will secure the best and freest co-operation of the other nations of the world in obtaining for her an unhampered and an unembarrassing opportunity for the independent determination of her own political development and national policy, and assure her of a sincere welcome into the society of free nations under institutions of her own choosing; and, more than a welcome, assistance also of every kind that she may need and may herself desire. The treatment accorded Russia by her sister nations in the months to come will be the acid test of their goodwill, of their comprehension of her needs as distinguished from their own interests, and of their intelligent and unselfish sympathy.

(7) Belgium, the whole world will agree, must be evacuated and restored without any attempt to limit the sovereignty which she enjoys in common with all other free nations. No other single act will serve, as this will serve, to restore confidence among the nations in the laws which they

have themselves set and determined for the government of their relations with one another. Without this healing act the whole structure and validity of international law is for ever impaired.

(8) All French territory should be freed, and the invaded portions restored, and the wrong done to France by Prussia in 1871 in the matter of Alsace-Lorraine, which has unsettled the peace of the world for nearly 50 years, should be righted, in order that peace may once more be made secure in the interest of all.

(9) A readjustment of the frontiers of Italy should be effected along clearly recognisable lines of nationality.

(10) The peoples of Austria-Hungary, whose place among the nations we wish to see safeguarded and assured, should be accorded the freest opportunity of autonomous development.

(11) Roumania, Serbia, and Montenegro should be evacuated; Serbia accorded free and secure access to the sea; and the relations of the several Balkan States to one another be determined by friendly counsel along historically established lines of allegiance and nationality; and international guarantees of the political and economic dependence and territorial integrity of the several Balkan States should be entered into.

(12) The Turkish portion of the present Ottoman Empire should be assured a secure sovereignty, but the other nationalities which are now under Turkish rule should be assured an undoubted security of life, and an absolutely unmolested opportunity of autonomous developments, and the Dardanelles should be permanently opened as a free passage to the ships and commerce of all nations under international guarantees.

(13) An independent Polish State should be formed, which should include the territories inhabited by indisputably Polish populations, which should be assured a free and secure access to the sea, and whose political and economic independence and territorial integrity should be guaranteed by international covenant.

(14) A general association of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small States alike.

HISTORY IN CARICATURE.

Oh, wad some Power the giftie gie us
To see ourselfs as ithers see us.—Burns.

Nearly all the Allied papers strongly emphasise the fact that the coming of the United States makes victory certain for the Entente Powers. In the cartoon on this page, "Burglar-Proof," the arrival of America is made the main theme.

The Germans endeavour to show England and France absolutely dependent upon the United States, but the cartoon from *Kladderadatsch*, "On the West Front," was, of course, published during the successful enemy drive towards the Marne,

before the Americans had begun to make their presence felt. The neutrals, too, show entire appreciation of the change that has come over the scene owing to the arrival of American soldiers in Europe.



[Chicago.] **BURGLAR PROOF.**



[Seattle.] **THE AMERICAN FLAG IS THERE WHEREVER THE STRIKERS**



[Berlin.] **BAD TIMES FOR ROBBER CHIEFS.**
Tiger Clemenceau and the British Lion retire to the jungle.



[Amsterdam.] **THE RACE BETWEEN THE RESERVES**



Kladderadatsch. [Berlin.
A CRY OF TERROR FROM THE ENTENTE
DITCH.

"Uncle Sam, Hurry! Hurry! Help! Help!"

Kladderadatsch depicts England, France and Italy praying for the coming of the Americans, and makes fun of the American efforts to trap submarines.



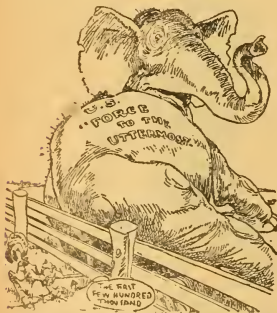
Republic.

CATCHING UP.

[St. Louis.

The St. Louis Republic shows the other side of the picture in its cartoon, "Catching up."

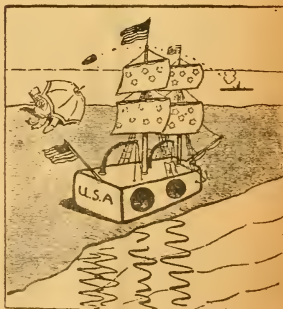
The New York Tribune has a humorous reference to the inadvisability of teasing elephants!



Tribune.

"THAT'S NO ORDINARY CATERPILLAR,
WILLIAM!"

[New York.



Kladderadatsch.

WOODROW'S U-BOAT TRAP.

[Berlin.



Eagle.]

THE BIG PUSH.

[Brooklyn.



Il 420.]

[Florence.

WITH BOTH TAPS ON THEY WILL SOON HAVE ENOUGH.

The Italians are naturally very jubilant over their successful defeat of the Austrian offensive on the Piave River some time ago. *Il 420* shows the Emperor Charles and Austria being rapidly submerged by water, which is flowing from two taps, one labelled, "The Italian Front," the other "Internal Situation."

The Montreal Star comments significantly on the manner in which peace between Roumania and the Central Powers was brought about.



Hindi Punch.]

DISILLUSIONED.

[Bombay.

He expected a hive of honey, but found instead a hornet's nest.



Star.]

[Montreal.

THE ALLIED POLICE WILL ATTEND TO THIS AFTER THE WAR.

BRUTAL FOOTPAD: "Have you everything handed over?"

VICTIM OF CIRCUMSTANCES: "Yes."

BRUTAL FOOTPAD: "Then we at peace are."

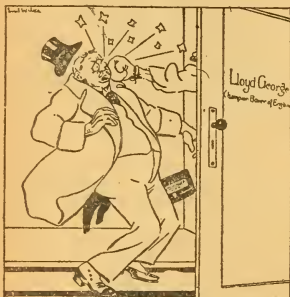


[Le Rire.]

[Paris.]

ORDER NOW REIGNS IN MOSCOW.

It is somewhat surprising to find a German paper making fun of one of its own statesmen, as is done by *Jugend* in the cartoon below.



[Jugend.]

[Munich.]

THE INDEFATIGABLE AND THE
INEXORABLE.

ERZBERGER: "If I could only speak for five minutes with Lloyd George—it would mean Peace."



[Lustige Blätter.]

[Berlin.]

AFTER THE PRISONERS' CONFERENCE AT THE
HAGUE.

HOLLAND: "I believe that the gentlemen will be back soon, for they have all tipped up their seats."



[La Victoire.]

[Paris.]

AMONG THE BOLSHEVIKS.

"The Czechs and the Japs are approaching! Ory, 'The revolution is in danger!' Louder than that!"

The opposite view is taken by *Lustige Blätter*, which suggests that the Prisoners' Conference at The Hague will shortly be followed by a general peace conference. The same paper satirises German war profiteers much as our own papers deal with our own.



[Westminster Gazette.]

[London.]

SEEING STARS.

MACRETH: "The cry is still 'They come!'"



[Lustige Blätter.]

[Berlin.]

THE MUNITION MAKER IN GERMANY.

GERMAN WAR PROFITEER: "We don't want any bill of fare: just bring along three portions of all your most expensive dishes!"

POST WAR PROBLEMS.*

BY PROF. MEREDITH ATKINSON, M.A., UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE.

II.—A WORLD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY.

When President Wilson first used his famous phrase, "a world safe for democracy," no doubt he had in mind the establishment of public law throughout the world by means of an international parliament based upon a League of Nations. I think it is both possible and profitable, however, to read into the phrase something much deeper and broader than the establishment of international government. Those who declaim against nationalism too frequently make the mistake of regarding a League of Nations as merely a means of co-operation between existing units called States. But, as a matter of fact, a vast amount of the conflict arising between States is due to the corrosive and schismatic forces at work within single States, such as the poverty-stricken condition of the masses, or an aggressive form of Imperialism, or the rule of an oppressive dynasty. All these conditions were present in Russia under the old regime of the Tsar, and to a lesser extent they obtained in Germany. Undoubtedly they contributed most seriously to the creation of conditions in the world of States which made for instability and war. Thus, we are all vitally interested in the internal conditions of every nation. President Wilson is quite logical and far-sighted in declaring that the Allies must bargain with the German people, and not with the Hohenzollerns. Mr. Gerard also strikes right home when he declares that it is "this King business" that is at the bottom of Germany's evil policy of ruthless aggression and world-domination. If Germany enters the League of Nations with her dynastic despotism unaltered, the world will certainly not be safe for democracy. On the other hand, the risk of war would be enormously reduced if all the Governments of the world were democracies. For a democracy has at least the virtue of pursuing an objective, namely the general welfare, which will bring it into infinitely less conflict with any other democracy than with a despotic form of government.

NEED FOR SOCIAL REFORM.

The more perfect the inner life and organisation of a State becomes, the more complete will it be in its co-operation in an international compact. Every social reform, every advance towards greater justice and a larger liberty for the individual, strengthens the true unity of the State and makes it a greater power for the broader human unity. We have grown so hide-bound in our false individualism, owing to our selfishness and want of sympathy with our kind, that we forget that the perfect individual is only to be realised through his complete citizenship. His citizenship must remain incomplete until we have provided such social conditions as will enable him to reach the full stature of the citizen. If we examine our social system to discover the extent to which this development is helped or allowed to express itself, we must be appalled at the forces of repression of individuality everywhere in evidence. The economic conditions of to-day, practically throughout the world, render almost impossible the widespread exercise of the creative powers latent in most individuals. How few men are pursuing the daily activities to which the principle of growth within them urges them! Social institutions should be designed to provide for this free and vigorous growth. Many people believe that democratic government, acting through an elected parliament, is a sufficient provision for social progress.

That this is not so is obvious to any observer of the social conditions obtaining in democratic countries. Social progress is, in fact, limited by the educational standard of the people, and that is mainly determined by their economic conditions. The average worker's hold upon his livelihood is altogether too precarious to make him a really free man. His education is so limited and his outlook so narrowed that he emerges with painful slowness from bad conditions. He expresses himself in the industrial unrest which has become a chronic feature of the economic system. Such unrest is due to his feeling that the system

*Professor Meredith Atkinson's next article will appear in our November 2nd issue.

deals unjustly with him, that it gives him less consideration than the raw materials upon which he works, and that the superior position of capital makes it impossible for him to gain any great advance in status. He therefore listens eagerly to the doctrine of the "class war," which has gained an enormous vogue during the past ten years, and is certain to grow still further in the disturbed conditions that will follow the war. On grounds of expediency, as well as on those of justice, the need for drastic social reform has never been so urgent. Revolutionism always flourishes most in the social chaos that follows a great war. In the difficult and dangerous situation that we shall shortly have to face, the principal factor of disaster will be the resistance offered in some countries, by the authorities and upper classes, to legitimate social reform. One is apt to be deemed an alarmist in uttering such warnings. But I have sadly too much evidence of the rapid growth amongst the working class of the spirit that seeks violent change. How can we make the world safe for democracy in an atmosphere of class conflict, and under social conditions which induce discontent in the masses of the people and deny them a just share in the control of their own lives?

Domestic peace must be an integral part of international peace. Otherwise we leave a cancer at the root of society. We must make a supreme effort to give the workers economic security, the minimum conditions of health and welfare in the workshop and the home, really free education from kindergarten to university, and a fair share in the control of industry. That all these objectives can be gained in the next generation I am convinced. If they are resisted by the forces of re-action, there will be such a social explosion that the community will be rent asunder in the catastrophe of civil war. How these social reforms may be accomplished in practice will be discussed in subsequent articles. Meanwhile, I hope we are agreed that nothing is more desirable than a change in the social outlook of the average man. The non-moral motto of "Business is business" must give way to the conception of a commercial function as a means to social service. Similarly, the doctrine of the class war must yield to a conception of human unity which will strive to give the worker his merited recognition as a free citizen of industry as well as a possessor of political rights.

DEFECTS OF DEMOCRACY.

Most people are content to speak of democracy as providing an automatic guarantee of progress. This blind faith in what is, after all, only an improved form of government, is a positive deterrent upon progress. For it makes men content with the establishment of an institution, when the thing that really matters is the spirit that should pervade it. The transference of political power to the whole community certainly gives the people a better chance of securing the benefits of a higher standard of welfare. But democracy is old enough to show us that it possesses serious limitations, and has not achieved more than a fraction of what was expected of it. After the war, the people will clamour more than ever for the things in which they believe. While the voice of the people must be heard in the land, there can be nothing but menace in the present advocacy in Australia of what is called "mass action." For many years, demagogues have flattered the people into a belief that there is something magic in the general will. *Vox populi, vox Dei*. Yet history is full of warnings of the terrible results of mob passion. Whatever we may think of the Russian situation, we may at least be certain that chaos and disaster are inevitable when the undisciplined and ignorant masses are released from the pressure of authority. The main problem of democracy is so to cultivate the civic spirit and self-discipline of the average citizen, that he will readily respond to the general authority which he himself has agreed to establish. That we are far from that consummation in Australia is quite evident. Social irresponsibility and wild talk are on the increase. The democracy of Australia is feeding itself more and more upon catchwords. Slinging phrases is no substitute for good citizenship. Certainly the leaders of democracy have often disappointed the people. But the people never get any further than suggesting a tightening up of the machinery—the Referendum, the Initiative, the Recall, the Caucus.

Every one of these devices may be necessary to safeguard the people against their betrayal by politicians. But they are no substitute for statesmanship or the spirit of social service. So long as the people's political intelligence is defective, we shall get indifferent politicians. Unhappily the people are quite content to choose men by other standards than those of personal integrity.

public spirit, and political knowledge. With rulers of that type, chosen by an intelligent people, we could afford to sacrifice something in administrative efficiency. But to-day we can see around us a pernicious growth of ignorance, corruption and inefficiency. The world can never be safe for democracy under such conditions, and it has aptly been suggested that we must also make the world safe *from* democracy. It might be more effective if we strove for safety *through* democracy, which we have never yet seriously attempted to establish. We must first of all recognise that there is no golden rule of social progress. A benevolent autocrat might give the people better social conditions than the president of a republic. Such, in fact, has often been the case. This is not an argument for autocracy, but a warning that the success of democracy depends upon far more than mere institutions. We have before us generations of painful evolution towards a form of democratic government which will derive its strength from clear political thinking and a social environment which is at once the reflection and the promoter of the spirit of public service.

PARLIAMENT AND POLITICIANS.

The sweeping condemnation of politicians current in Australia to-day is as much a reflection upon popular judgment as a stricture upon our elected rulers. Yet we have good reason to be dissatisfied with the majority of our politicians. Apart from the personal characters with which they enter Parliament, the conservative atmosphere of that institution greatly influences their minds. Recognising the immense difficulties in the way of practical progress, the politician tends to become inactive and apathetic. The rank and file outside, being out of touch with practical difficulties, grows impatient and critical. The party system's inevitable tendency is to make public business so much a formal farce, that the politician feels justified in treating it as a game or mock contest exhibited to the public, while the real business is done behind the scenes.

It is often urged that Parliamentary government is much purer than it was in the past. The crudities of ancient corruption have certainly disappeared. There are no more sales of "rotten boroughs," no more open bribery, or purchase of appointments. But corruption is still undoubtedly prevalent, though in subtler forms, and to an extent hard to determine. The ex-

pectation of rewards and all forms of government patronage are still certainly the main support of the party system. There is much corruption also in the management of elections and selections. It is notorious that a negligible percentage of electors actively participate in the selection of party candidates. This leads to a vast amount of petty jobbery, corrupting candidates from the first and bamboozling the electors. It is no wonder that, under such conditions, the candidate is often of such poor material. Most election speeches are of a lamentably low order, but the crowd is apparently quite satisfied with them.

The severely practical man will probably ask what all this has got to do with post-war problems. It is, as a matter of fact, the most serious of all our problems. While I shall address myself to the material questions of commerce, finance and industry, I hold most strongly that the basic problem of all is how to alter the attitude of mind and the character of the masses. It is because we have bestowed so little attention upon this aspect of our social development that our attempts at solution have been so partial and unsatisfactory. If we had the practical good sense to spend an adequate sum upon the education of the people in subjects of public concern, the solution of our material problem would come as a matter of course. But we are so eager for an immediate cash return upon our national investments, that we are not aware how much we have squandered upon the roof, while leaving the foundations unsound. As to what are the best means of bringing about this change of mind and breadth of knowledge in the people, I shall have something to say in my next article.

ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY.

In another direction, the deficiencies of democracy have a disastrous, not to say a fatal effect, namely in ignorance of people concerning foreign affairs. For this secret diplomacy is largely responsible, and it has only reigned so long because vested interests have been able to keep the people in ignorance of what was being done in their name. Most wars of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries had their root in the economic interest of the hostile parties. The instability of the so-called "concert of Europe" has been exposed more clearly than ever during the ten years before the war. In spite of the apparent settlement by diplomacy of vexed questions in Morocco,

Tripoli, Albania, Bosnia, Macedonia and Persia, the rumblings of Armageddon could be heard. Bismarck had set the fashion of establishing treaties and alliances on cold and calculated self-interest. Thus began the modern struggle for places in the sun across the seas, in the sense of opportunities for exploitation of other lands through annexation, protectorates and concessions. Until very recently all this was regarded as quite permissible by the vast majority of people. It is useless for the pacifist to cite his own country as having provoked the war by such means. All countries were in the throes of a vicious tradition of diplomacy. But that is not to say that each of them sought aggrandisement through war, or were guilty of the cardinal sin of bringing about a world-conflagration to secure their ends. That Germany was the only nation definitely and consciously organising for such an objective, is now abundantly proved by documents whose evidence is unassailable.

What we should now interest ourselves in is the means to be adopted for preventing the continuance of this economic diplomacy. The greatest and most subtle danger is the influence of the concessionaire, the type of international capitalist, on our diplomacy. The international competition for concessions in Turkey, Mexico, Persia, China and Africa has had most evil effects. Often loans by great powers to inferior countries have been accompanied by conditions for the purchase of armaments. The exploitation of cheap coloured labour, and a reduction of the independence of weaker States are amongst other undesirable effects. The remedy is not to leave things alone. The rich resources of the globe must be opened up for the sake of civilisation. But

it is high time that the enlightened nations of the world showed some interest in the conditions under which these virgin fields are exploited. The British have shown not only a far greater degree of humanity than any other nation, but are willing and anxious to help subject races on to their feet, and to teach them how to acquire the means of civilised life. But the period following the war will give us a new crop of such problems. Already companies are being formed to exploit new resources in new ways. We shall discuss later the means of controlling these in the public interest, but ordinary safeguards will be of little avail unless democracy awakens to the need of taking an active interest in foreign affairs. In this domain the Australian is most apathetic. He is slow to recognise that Australia has at last become an integral part of the world-system. Australian politics can no longer be regarded as domestic. The Pacific alone offers us a huge field for speculation and nervous fear. We cannot do our part in making the world safe for democracy unless we widen our interest and our enquiry to cover the international field.

Thus the full conditions of safety for the world must include an attempt to remove the forces of internal schism which divide the members of a nation into unnatural groups or classes, inducing forms of misunderstanding and conflict. The solution of this internal problem would fit each nation the better to make its full contribution towards the removal of obstacles to international union. The broader problems of our national life and those of the world at large must be treated as a unity. There is no other way of reaching a unified solution.

DO YOU KNOW THAT—

Out of 1342 British prisoners captured at Kut by the Turks only 339 are still alive, and out of 6328 Indian non-commissioned officers and men 3946 are known to be dead, or have not been heard of since their capture?

The annual value of the war pensions granted in New Zealand is £1,364,143? By the end of this year it is expected to exceed £2,000,000.

The *Entente* Powers, according to German papers, have presented the Roumanian Government with claims for compensation for war material bought

and paid for by the Allies, which material is still in the possession of the Roumanians?

The fuel shortage in Argentina is very serious, wood fuel fetching £7 a ton? All coal required has to be imported.

Owing to lack of paper, French newspapers now appear as two pages only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and as four pages on other days?

The Turkish cruiser *Medjidieh*, which ran on a mine in March, 1915, near Odessa, and was subsequently raised by the Russians, was seized by the Germans

when they occupied Sebastopol, and has since been returned to the Turks?

Whales have had a rough time in the Atlantic recently? Hundreds of them now lie strewn along the Atlantic coast, having been mistaken for submarines in the zealous hunt for the German raiders.

The net debt of the Canadian Government at the end of June was £168,194,633?

All youths of the Baltic provinces are now eligible for officers' commissions in the German navy?

The Moroccans in the north recently rebelled against the French who occupied their country some time ago? They were defeated near Fez, and fled over the border into the Spanish zone.

In Canada railway tickets, telegrams, etc., are subject to a special war tax, which last year realised £130,000? Further revenue is to be raised by taxes on matches, tea, and other articles.

French civilians, whether men or women, who have been wounded or injured as the result of any act of the enemy, are entitled to wear a yellow ribbon bordered with blue stripes, on which is fixed a five-pointed star?

Behind the front and in Germany, according to German papers, the German Army Administration is taking care of 13,812 British graves (704 officers'), 292,533 Russian (1638 officers'); 90,611 French (1654 officers'); 27,691 Roumanian (186 officers')?

The total steel need of the United States and the Allies for the last six months of 1918 is estimated at 21,000,000 tons? This is far in excess of the greatest production in the history of the industry for a like period.

The American Shipping Board is increasing the available world tonnage by making ships work harder? Before the war ships carrying nitrates from Chile to the United States made four round trips a year. Now they do seven. Sailing vessels formerly made a round trip between the United States and the Argentine every six months. Recently large schooners have done the trip in 117 days.

The United States is spending 691 dollars every second on the war against Germany?

The American Government to date has insured 2,954,609 men in the army

and navy, for 25,143,118 dollars? The average amount of insurance for each man is 8500 dollars.

According to official reports, the wheat harvest of the United States this year will be 930,000,000 bushels? On the basis of normal pre-war consumption, this would allow 600,000,000 bushels for domestic use, and 330,000,000 bushels for export. In order to greatly increase the exportable surplus domestic consumption of wheat is still to be greatly restricted.

The American soldiers have established newspapers in every training camp? There are at present over fifty camp newspapers all published by officers and enlisted men of the army. Most of them appear weekly.

More than 2500 aeroplane Liberty motors have been constructed in America? Four hundred were made in July and 500 in August. Fifty thousand such motors are on order.

The Americans hold the record for rapid torpedo boat destroyer construction? One such craft was put in commission recently seventy days after her keel was laid.

There is enough American tonnage available to transport 250,000 soldiers across the Atlantic monthly? Hitherto most of the American soldiers have been shipped on British vessels.

American factories produced 2,000,000 hand grenades and 1,000,000 rifle grenades in July? It is expected that this rate will be more than doubled soon. Sixty million grenades are on order, and 18,000 persons are exclusively employed on their manufacture.

By the recent amendment of the draft law in the United States 10,633,249 more men are made available for the American army? Formerly men between the ages of 18 and 31 only were liable to military service. The amendment increases the age to 45. There are still 6,503,569 men between the ages of 21 and 31 who have not yet been called up, and 3,087,063 between the ages of 18 and 20.

Imports into America from New Zealand and Australia for the twelve months ending June 30th, 1918, amounted to 61,308,263 dollars, as compared with 18,874,561 dollars in the twelve months ending June 30th, 1917?

GENERAL MAURICE AND GENERALISSIMO FOCH.

Owing to an incorrect report of a statement by General Maurice in London, which was cabled to the American papers, it was generally assumed in the United States that the former Director of Military Operations was opposed to the plan of a unified command under Foch as Generalissimo. He writes in *The American Review of Reviews* to explain what he did actually say, and to emphasise his approval of the appointment of a Generalissimo and his high admiration for Ferdinand Foch. "There had," he said, "been opposition in the British army to certain proposals for obtaining unity of command, but that opposition was due solely to the fact that the proposals in question were regarded by British soldiers as unworkable and militarily ineffective." Actually what was being attempted was command by committee. This has been repeatedly tried in war, and has invariably failed.

Committees are an excellent means of bringing together and reconciling conflicting views, but in a higher command there should be but one will and no conflict of opinion; for if command in war is to be effective it is necessary that decisions should be prompt, and that one policy should be pursued with singleness of purpose and with all possible energy. When a committee meets discussion and delay are inevitable; it ends generally in each member of the committee retaining his original opinion, and the final result is usually a compromise, in which the strongest will obtains most, but rarely all, of what he desires. Now compromise is fatal in war, because no one of those who have agreed to it can apply it with complete confidence in the result, each man feeling that if only his own proposal had been adopted complete victory would be certain. It is one of Napoleon's maxims of war that a bad plan carried through with resolution is better than the best plan carried through without confidence and determination.

It was Napoleon, too, I believe, who declared that one poor general in supreme command was better than two good generals with divided authority. The distrust of British officers of carrying on war by committee was fully justified, for the Versailles executive board broke down completely before the first German drive this year, and has not been heard of since. General Maurice says that he was closely associated with General Foch throughout the greater part of the war, and that long before the war he had conceived a very great admiration for him as an exponent of the principles of

modern strategy. He thus describes the position in the early days of the fighting.

When the British army first went to France its numbers were so small that it fitted naturally into its place in the French machine, and Joffre was *de facto*, if not in name, Generalissimo. Until the end of 1915 our troops fought both in attack and in defence in accordance with Joffre's plans, and usually in direct co-operation with French troops. On the Marne we assisted Manoury, the hero of the Oureq, in turning back Von Kluck's hordes; we crossed the Aisne in conjunction again with Manoury on our left, and Franchet D'Espercy on our right; in the first battle of Ypres we were aiding Foch to block the roads to Calais, and at Festhubert and Loos our attacks were from the first subordinate to and designed solely to help Foch's efforts against the Vimy Ridge.

It was not until 1916, when Kitchener's army took the field, that the British forces in France reached such a size as to make them in any way independent.

It then became apparent that there were difficulties in the way of the commander-in-chief of one great army, occupied fully with the control and administration of his own men, superintending at the same time the operations of a large allied force. From then on it became a question of loyal and whole-hearted co-operation between two co-equal and independent commanders-in-chief.

So long as the Allies had the initiative in the West, could choose their own time and place of attack, and could force the enemy to fight at their will, this arrangement worked fairly well, though there were weaknesses which were apparent to all keen observers.

When, however, in the autumn of 1917, the German forces began to gather in the West it became evident to all British soldiers who had carefully considered the question, that a Generalissimo in some form or other was indispensable, and that this Generalissimo could not be the commander-in-chief of one of the armies already on the front, but must be independent of and superior to all the commanders in the field. For it was clear that the enemy would threaten attack upon more than one part of the front and upon more than one army, and that it would be the duty of each commander-in-chief to look especially to the interests of his own forces and to defend tenaciously his own front, when it might be that, for the good of the Allied cause as a whole, he ought to sacrifice both troops and ground, either to allow of the protection of some more vital point, to release forces for a counter-offensive.

British soldiers welcomed the appointment of Foch, because they held these views, and no one appreciated more fully

than did they the immense difficulties and responsibilities of the task before the Generalissimo.

It is not from the professional British officers who have studied war that opposition

will come to practical and effective unity of command. Their one regret is that the attempt to set up unpractical and ineffective machinery made it necessary to appoint Foch in the stress of battle instead of in the quiet days of preparation.

A FORD SHIP A DAY.

From the Henry Ford ship-building plant, at Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A., one complete submarine chaser is being launched every day! Contrary to general belief, the boats are not merely exaggerated launches, equipped with light guns. They are 204 feet long, and larger than the old type of destroyers. Viewed from above decks, these *Eagles* are shaped rather like a mackerel. The midship cross-section bears a strong likeness to the lines of a canal barge. The stern is square, and the remainder of the craft is built generally in straight lines and plain surfaces. The bow, however, tapers to a knife-like edge, sharp enough and strong enough to cut a submarine in two. When fully equipped and ready for the sea, the boats have a draft of eight feet. A steam turbine, geared to the propeller shaft on which is mounted a single, three-blade screw, of rather deep pitch, furnishes the motive power. Crude oil is used as fuel. The tank capacity is sufficient to enable the craft to steam right across the Atlantic.

There is not a forging or rolled beam in the entire ship. Everything is pressed from sheet metal, cold, by means of automatic machinery that cuts every piece in exact position, then punches the rivet holes, and bends every part to its required shape. Applying the underlying principles used in his motor-car plant, Ford has revolutionised the boat-building industry, according to a writer in *The Automotive Industries*. "Mr. Ford," he says, "does not build boats; he manufactures them."

Under the Ford system production is a straight line proposition from the time the keel is laid until the boat is launched from the hydraulic elevator. The boats are manufactured in a building 1500 feet long. Each one is built on a long flat car. There are three tracks in the *Eagles'* "aerie," and each track will accommodate seven boats at once. The steel plates are carried from the punches which make the rivet holes to the flat car by electric cranes. There mechanics work steadily at the various details of assembling, the flat car moving forward as the boat takes shape. When the boat is ready for launching the end of the building is reached. Twenty-one boats are under construction at once, and it takes twenty-one days to complete one.

The launching is not done in the conventional manner. There are no launching calculations to make, and the engineers of the yard do not stand with their hearts in their mouths waiting to see that the boat slides off properly. Instead, the end of the launching pier is a hydraulic elevator, which gently lowers the boat into the water, lets it float off the car, and then rises to allow the car to be returned to the end of the building for the starting of another *Eagle*. On January 15th, the Navy Department awarded the Ford Company the contract for the *Eagles*. On February 20th, designs having been completed, the construction of the ship-building plant was begun, and, on July 11th, the first completed *Eagle* was launched.—Quick work!

BRITISH CONTROL OF THE TROPICS.

Mr. W. B. Osborn writes in *The Nineteenth Century* on the need for educating public opinion in the United Kingdom, so that a general conviction will be reached that Great Britain must control and develop the tropics. His arguments as to why Great Britain should do this, and refuse to allow Germany to have any share in the development of these

vast undeveloped countries are rather extraordinary! The average Englishman, says he, "knows nothing, or less than nothing, of the vast extent and resources of our Crown Colonies and Protectorates, and has not the slightest conception of the manner in which the territories we control in the tropics, by far the richest despositories of raw materials and

foodstuffs held by any nation at any time in the world's history, could be utilised for his own benefit."

What we must do, says this writer, is to copy Germany! German experts, trained in German schools of tropical agriculture, held highly paid billets as managers and the like on British-owned plantations. The over-sea Imperialist would have liked to see them displaced by British specialists, but he was obliged to employ Germans or Dutchmen, owing to the fact that the scientific and practical training required could not be obtained under the British flag. Even today there is no chair of tropical agriculture in an English University. We should be well advised, he goes on, to imitate Germany's example without a moment's delay, and create a public interest in our vast assemblage of tropical territories.

He scouts the idea which is apparently being advocated in America, as well as in certain circles in Great Britain, that tropical Africa should be placed under the control of an international committee on which Germany would be represented. His view, apparently, is that we must not allow Germany to control any portion of the world's surface which would give her the raw products which she requires to enable her to take once more a leading place in industry and commerce.

The disappearance of the German flag from Equatorial Africa will enable us to realise the Cape-to-Cairo idea to the best possible advantage. It completes our control of the tropics and increases our holdings there to some 7,000,000 square miles of territory, almost every part of which supplies indispensable foodstuffs and raw materials. As yet the systematic development of these vast areas is merely beginning, though we have laid the foundations of permanent prosperity there by a careful study of the vast variety of indigenous races and of the various answers to the all-important question—how must this strange race, "half-devil and half-child" though it seem, be treated so that the most and best can be made of it? Our equity is based on a knowledge of practical ethnology, the sum of the experiences of innumerable experts, each of whom has given his life to some special task, which no other nation has acquired or could possibly acquire. The Englishman has a genius for entering into the minds of non-European stocks, savage or semi-civilised or decadent, and for gaining their confidence. The German lacks this great gift and cannot acquire it; so that the substitution of German for British control of a thousand ward-races would be the greatest wrong that was ever inflicted on humanity.

One wonders, however, whether it makes for the future peace of the world to present Great Britain with these huge areas of immense potential wealth when the staunchest advocates of bringing them permanently under the British flag admit that systematic development of the other British tropical possessions is "merely beginning." After all, we have had huge areas in Africa under our control for a great many years, and if we have failed to properly develop what we had then, how long is it going to take us to utilise, as they should be utilised, the great territories we now propose to annex to the British Crown? Says Mr. Osborn:—

The British working man does not even know the names or products of our tropical possessions, much less the systems of governance which have been established there as a result of the sympathetic study of the inhabitants thereof by generations of capable and devoted administrators. . . . If it could be taught to the masses of the population in terms of countries, of invaluable industries, of historic personalities, the delusion that our conquests in the Torrid Zone are something to be ashamed of would soon be extirpated.

In writing of natural products he declares that the victory of synthetic indigo was due to the carelessness of the indigo planters, not apparently to the efficiency of dye makers on the Continent! According to him, we may expect when the war is over to have to compete with all sorts of substitutes for natural products, which German scientists have discovered during the last four years, and must be prepared to use all the weapons science and statesmanship can provide. One of the statesmanlike measures he proposes is thus outlined:—

The main lines of a policy for the right use of our control of the Tropics can even now be indicated. As things are, we practically have a monopoly of several indispensable kinds of raw material which Germany must have at any price—jute, for example, which she gets from India. If it be made a principle of British policy that no raw material from our tropical dependencies, which can be turned into the finished products in Great Britain and the Dominions, shall go to enemy countries, we shall achieve these all-important objects: in the first place, we shall be controlling the industrial expansion of Germany and so preventing her from preparing for a future war of world-conquest; secondly, we shall have work for the additions, such as the army of women workers, which have been made to our labouring force during war-time; thirdly, we shall be in a far better position to bear the burden of war indebtedness.

It would be better, apparently, in his opinion, to leave any surplus rubber from

these tropical lands, any excess copra gathered, any supplies which could not be used in British factories, lying in store for ever if need be, rather than permit them to go to Germany or Austria. That hardly suggests the sane development of these new lands. In conclusion, he says:—

COMING GENERAL ELECTION IN GREAT BRITAIN

It is almost certain that there will be a general election in Great Britain and Ireland this year, but never has the result of an election been more difficult to foretell. We here in Australia, in fact, know very little about what is going on at home, for the newspapers tell us little, and what they do say is hopelessly biased one way or the other. We welcome, therefore, any sane and reasoned statement of the position like that which appears in *The New Republic* from the pen of Sidney Webb. After mentioning that nearly 20,000,000 people will be entitled to vote, he says:—

It will be an inconvenient occasion for such a momentous consultation of the electorate. Nearly half the adult manhood is under arms, most of it overseas. More than half the industrial workers are engaged in the production of munitions and other war supplies, directly or indirectly in Government pay. There will be almost a famine in paper and envelopes; and most of the election speakers and writers, and many of the election campaign staffs, are serving with the colours. The newly compiled registers, with special provisions for the soldiers, and for some other absentee voters, will include the names of a larger percentage of the census population—in different districts, between 40 and 45 out of every 100—than has ever before been enfranchised in any great nation. All the women and probably half of the men—possibly three-fourths of the entire electorate—will vote for the first time in their lives. And they will, we must assume, cast their votes amid the tense excitement of an unparalleled national struggle, in which the very existence of the British Empire is at stake.

The present Parliament was elected for a term of seven years in 1910, and in 1911, by its own statute, it limited its duration to a maximum of five years. There has been no election for eight years, Parliament having been kept alive by temporary statutes. The new rolls will be ready in October, and, says Mr. Webb, Lloyd George is confident that he will secure a triumphant majority.

Such a majority, would not only strengthen the hands of the administration in a resolute maintenance of the war, but would also give

But nothing can be done until we bring the driving power of public opinion to bear, and that is why our first step must be to convert our kings in corduroy to a sense of the true significance of Empire.

That is to say, he emphasises the need previously expressed of copying German methods immediately and closely.

the Prime Minister—who has never yet received a popular mandate for that office—such a personal endorsement as would make him less dependent than he is at present on this or that group in Parliament. We may, therefore, be sure that Mr. Lloyd George, who has told us that he is not unskilled in political strategy, will not postpone the General Election for any other reason than the happening of some grave national disaster, or some moment of supreme anxiety. And, although we may assume that our political strategist will choose the happiest moment, and keep his decision a secret up to the last, we shall probably not be far out if we predict that—barring accidents—the polling day for the 20 millions of British electors will be a Tuesday or a Thursday about the middle of November.

It was the approach of the general election which caused the newspapers to give such prominence to the annual Party Conference of the British Labour Party. The newspapers were hopelessly at sea about it, for actually it was only the ordinary routine Conference for the election of the Executive Committee.

Never was less opening for the journalistic sensation-monger, or for the promotion of "secession" scandals. The press was reduced to making a fuss about the invitation, as "fraternal delegate" (in addition to the customary French and Belgian working class leaders) of Mr. Troelstra, the leader of the Dutch Labour Party, as the companion of Mr. Branting, the leader of the Swedish Labour Party. When the invitation to these two leaders of neutral Europe was announced (the concurrence of the War Cabinet having first been obtained) a great, and a discreditably clamour arose in the "patriotic" press. It was quite right to invite the leader of the Swedish Labour Party, as one neutral, because he was declared to be a partisan of our own cause; but the invitation of the leader of the Dutch Labour Party as another neutral was scandalous and intolerable, because he was declared to be a partisan of our enemy! The fact is that they are both simply neutral. Unfortunately, the War Cabinet, against the recommendation of the Foreign Office, yielded to the popular clamour; and (after having concurred in the invitation to Mr. Troelstra) abruptly forbade him to land on British territory. Now, Mr. Troelstra would have brought with him, it is believed, the extremely sympathetic and important official reply of the Austrian (and possibly also that of the German) Socialist Party, to the "Memorandum

on War Aims" of the Inter-Allied Conference of February last. The War Cabinet probably did not realise, when it refused Mr. Troelstra a passport, what a valuable "moral offensive" for the Entente cause it was obstructing and postponing.

The other incident the Press elevated into a scandal was the decision to terminate the Party Truce. Mr. Webb points out that a truce, though applicable to by-elections, became difficult to maintain when the whole party was worked up to a fiercely contested general election within a few months, at which as many constituencies as possible will be fought.

What was important in the Conference was the demonstration of the growth in numbers, power and status of the Labour Party itself. Mr. Henderson was able to announce that 304 candidates were either definitely fixed to constituencies, or in process of being so fixed (this is just half the total constituencies of Great Britain), whilst about a hundred more were already in contemplation. Many Liberals, and some Conservatives, who have formerly stood or been invited to stand for these parties, are this time asking to be allowed to stand as Labour candidates—a process of conversion which is paralleled by very significant "turnovers" among electors of the professional and even of the capitalist classes, who declare their intention of voting "Labour." To those who know the conditions of English politics, it will be no less significant to record the beginning of the conversion of the barristers, several of whom will be contesting seats for the Labour Party, possibly even a King's Counsel or two who have joined the party. In several places, the Liberal Party organisation has gone over *en bloc* to the rising party.

Already, according to Mr. Webb, the anticipated campaign of abuse and misrepresentation, prejudice and malice has begun. The object is, of course, to check the progress of the Labour Party among the electorates; and the popular press, skilfully engineered in Lloyd George's interest, is hard at work on the job.

The Labour Party is upbraided and denounced (in spite of its repeated and invariable decisions resolutely to maintain the war), as being "defeatist" and pacifist. Absurd lists of notorious pacifists, conscientious objectors and persons convicted of offences against the Defence of the Realm Act are circulated as being those of the Labour Party

candidates; and these are reproduced, without investigation, by newspapers like the *Morning Post*. Your readers may take it that these lists are ludicrous in their inaccuracy. But the denunciations and insinuations will go on for the next three months; and the whole whirlwind and tornado that Mr. Lloyd George will rouse, by his speeches, and through the newspapers backing his campaign, will have its effect on a large proportion of the twenty million electors.

The result of the election, says Mr. Webb, is unpredictable, but he gives us his opinion. Ireland will go against the Government by four to one; that, at any rate, is certain.

Of the six hundred seats in Great Britain, Mr. Lloyd George's Coalition Party may probably secure seven-twelfths, or 350. The balance will be divided between the followers of Mr. Asquith and those of Mr. Henderson; and no one is prepared to predict with any confidence which of these minorities will be the greater. For my own part, I should think the Labour Party will have done well if, contesting only two-thirds of the seats in Great Britain, it polls a quarter of the aggregate vote; and if its present 35 members return to the House of Commons a hundred strong. But, in spite of all Mr. Lloyd George's political strategy and press tornado, there may possibly be a landslide to the left; and unless Mr. Asquith's Liberal Party promptly makes up its mind to take up energetically at the election the part of "His Majesty's Opposition," the landslide will carry forward not the Liberal but the Labour forces.

If Mr. Webb's forecast is accurate Mr. Lloyd George could count on 350 direct supporters from Great Britain and 20 from Ireland whose representation is not altered by the New Act. Opposed to him will be 83 Irishmen, 200 official Liberals, and a Labour contingent 100 strong. If Irish, Liberals and Labour representatives united against him, Lloyd George would be defeated by 383 votes to 370. Of the policy of the three leaders, Mr. Webb says:—

Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Asquith and Mr. Henderson—differing mainly in phraseology and in the proportion allowed to particular details—will alike declare that we must fight on for the aims laid down by President Wilson; and nevertheless neglect no honest overtures from the enemy.



CATECHISM OF THE WAR—LXXVII.

Since August, 1914, when the war began, 2146 questions have been asked and answered in this section. Most of these have been reprinted in STEAD'S WAR FACTS.

Q.—What territory did Great Britain acquire at the Treaty of Utrecht?

A.—The Treaty of Utrecht is the general name given to a series of treaties which concluded the War of the Spanish Succession in 1713-14. By it England obtained Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, the island of St. Kitts, and the Hudson Bay territory, from France; and Gibraltar and Minorca, from Spain. In addition England secured from Spain the monopoly for thirty years of the lucrative slave trade with Spanish America, which had formerly been enjoyed by France. England began the war to force France to free the Netherlands, and to compel King Louis to hand over the Spanish inheritance to Austria. Begun to free a little people, England won huge areas as reward in the end.

Q.—What proportion of the total population of the United Kingdom is engaged in reproductive work?

A.—That is a somewhat difficult thing to say, because what is actually reproductive work? In agriculture and fishing, in England and Wales, according to the census of 1911, 1,165,654 males were engaged, and 94,822 females. In industry the numbers were 7,015,605 males and 2,452,533 females, but there were many people engaged in the professions, in domestic occupations and in commercial work. In 1911 the total population of England and Wales was 36,070,492. Of these 28,519,313 were over ten years of age. Of the males, amongst them 2,208,535 were unoccupied, and of the females 10,026,379. In Scotland, with a total population of 4,760,904, there were 3,714,401 people over ten years of age. Of the males 309,024 were unoccupied, and of the females 1,338,410. In Great Britain, therefore, with a total population of 40,831,396, 12,927,422 males were engaged in some occupation or other, and 5,423,944 females.

Q.—Is it true that despite the war losses there are actually more men in the United Kingdom to-day than there would have been had the previous year's rate of migration been continued?

A.—We do not know how many British soldiers have been killed in the war, and

therefore cannot well make comparisons. We know, however, that in the four years before the war the number of British emigrants totalled 1,789,952. The proportion of male to female emigrants was four to three, so that roughly 1,000,000 of these would be males. There would be children and old men amongst them, but the majority would be youths and men in the prime of life. It is safe to say that Great Britain during the four years before the war lost at the very least more than half a million men of military age by emigration—the fittest men, too. Had the drain continued the home land would have lost considerably more than that number during the last four years, as the rate of emigration was steadily going up. In 1910 it was 381,190, and in 1913 it was 469,640.

Q.—Do the relatives of a soldier who has been made a prisoner of war continue to receive the money he has allotted to them from his pay?

A.—A prisoner of war is still regarded as being a soldier on active service, and separation allowances and allotments continue to be paid. His own pay is held for him by the military authorities until his release.

Q.—Why is it that in most European countries the capitals are situated inland, whereas those of the six Australian States are all situated near the coast?

A.—The reason is, of course, because the countries of Europe were settled from the land, whereas Australia was settled from the sea. Practically all the new States of the world have their capitals on the seaboard. Even the capital of the United States of America is easily accessible from the sea. The great cities of Canada are situated on the St. Lawrence, the actual capital having been arbitrarily settled on later on at Ottawa. The capital of Brazil—Rio de Janeiro—is on the sea, and the capitals of Argentine, Chile and the Union of South Africa, are all on the sea coast.

Q.—How does the franchise of England compare with that of Germany?

A.—That question is answered in STEAD'S WAR FACTS. At the next election in Great Britain, the franchise will be

a more liberal one than that enjoyed by the people of Germany, as, for the first time, women—a limited number of them—are going to be allowed to vote for Parliamentary candidates. The number of Social Democrats in the Reichstag is 108, of whom 89 belong to the Social Democratic Party proper and 19 to the Social Democratic Union, which broke away from the parent party in 1916. The total number of members in the Reichstag is 397. The number of Labour men in the British Parliament is 40, and there are four Independents. The total number of members in the House is 670.

Q.—Can vessels navigate the waters north of Siberia in the summer?

A.—Certainly; it is possible for vessels to use the Arctic Ocean during summer time, but although efforts were made many years ago to foster trade between Siberian ports and Great Britain the enterprise did not meet with much success. Still, vessels have loaded wheat in the Siberian rivers and have successfully carried their cargo to British ports. It would be possible to land troops in the northern part of Siberia during the summer, but as there are no railways there and few roads the rivers would have to be relied upon for transport, and in any case the Arctic Sea is navigable for a few months only every year.

Q.—Is it really true that the old age pensions paid in Germany are entirely insufficient to support life?

A.—The actual value of a pension can only be determined by its purchasing power. What would be regarded as sufficient in Germany would be considered a pittance in this country. But it is interesting to compare the systems in force in England and in Germany. Germany led the way in legislation providing for aged people, for injured, sick, and incapacitated workers. The payment of old age pensions was begun in Germany in 1871. In England it was begun thirty-seven years later—in 1908. The Act making insurance against sickness, accident and incapacity compulsory on all workers in industrial pursuits came into force in Germany in 1883. The National Insurance Act came into force in Great Britain in 1911. In Germany the old age pension scheme is a contributory one—that is to say, the workers themselves pay a portion of their wages into the pensions fund. In England the pension is granted by the State, and only to those who have an income of less than £31 10s. per

annum. The pension paid in Great Britain to old men and women over the age of seventy before the war was 5s. a week, but if the aged person had means exceeding £21 a year, but not exceeding £23 12s. 6d., 4s. only per week was paid; 3s. was paid when the means exceeded £23 12s. 6d., but did not exceed £26 5s.; 2s. when the means exceeded £26 5s., but did not exceed £28 17s. 6d.; 1s. a week when the means exceeded £28 17s. 6d., but did not exceed £31 10s. That is to say, the British Act to some extent penalises thrift. The worker who has contrived to save enough to bring in a revenue of £31 11s. a year, gets nothing, whereas the man who has not endeavoured to save at all receives 5s. a week. In Germany every worker has a pension book in which stamps are affixed each week, which vary in value according to the yearly earnings. The man receiving £100 a year has to affix a weekly stamp worth 4.23d., half of which he has to pay for and the other half of which must be paid for by the employer. This is an insurance against old age and invalidity. As in England old age pensions begin when the age of seventy has been reached. The payments vary from 2s. a week to 4s. 5d. a week. In connection with invalidity the pensions paid vary from £8 8s. to £18 a year. In case of death from accident the sum of at least £2 10s. is paid to defray the expenses of interment, and a monthly allowance of one-fifth the annual earnings is paid to the widow and to each child up to the age of fifteen. In the British National Insurance Act each worker has to pay 7d. a week in the case of a man and 6d. a week in the case of a woman. The employer in each case is responsible for the payment, but may deduct 4d. from the man's wages and 3d. from the woman's—that is to say, he pays about half and the worker pays half.

Q.—Is the infantile death rate in Germany larger than in any other country in Europe?

A.—The infantile mortality is high in Germany—156 per thousand births registered. The rate in the United Kingdom is 110, in Italy 137, in Japan 150, in Ceylon 171, in Roumania 187, in Chile 286. The statistics of infantile deaths in the large cities are interesting. The infantile death rate of Manchester is 129, of Hamburg 130, of Edinburgh 132, of Liverpool 133, of Munich 134, of Antwerp 140, of Berlin 142, of Glasgow 143, of Marseilles 144, of Vienna 149, of Montreal 242.

Q.—Is the district of Sulwalki peopled by Poles or Lithuanians?

A.—The district of Sulwalki was originally part of Lithuania. When Prince Jagiello, the ruler of Lithuania, became king of Poland, in 1384, the two States became one, and thereafter the King of Poland ruled over the combined territories, which included Sulwalki. In the end Poland was divided between Prussia, Austria and Russia, the latter obtaining the lion's share. Sulwalki was included in the Russian province of Poland, but Lithuania was not preserved as a special province within the Russian Empire. It is claimed that a majority of the people dwelling in Sulwalki are Lithuanians and not Poles. The use of the Lithuanian language was entirely prohibited for nearly half a century, but since 1904 newspapers and books printed in that language were allowed to be published in Sulwalki. When the war began the Lithuanians endeavoured to obtain promises from the Tsar to unite what are known as Little and Great Lithuania, and re-establish the old capital of Konigsberg. When the Germans triumphed the Lithuanians apparently endeavoured to make as good arrangements as possible with the Kaiser, and apparently Sulwalki is included in the new State of Lithuania.

Q.—Is horseflesh commonly eaten in Germany?

A.—It is not usual to find it on German tables, but in the markets of Berlin and other towns, as in those of Brussels and Paris and most European cities, horseflesh is sold for food. Indeed, a considerable trade was carried on in exporting old horses from England to Belgium, where they were slaughtered for market.

Q.—What does the Commonwealth Government cost the people of Australia annually?

A.—The actual cost of the Commonwealth departments, including the Governor-General, in 1913-14, the year before the war, was £15,458,776, but much of this expenditure would have had to be borne by the States had there been no Commonwealth Government. The actual items which are purely Federal were:—

Governor-General	£17,815
Parliament	243,163
Prime Minister's Department ...	82,847
Attorney-General's Department	82,442

Included in the Treasurer's Department, which cost £2,787,034, are old age pen-

sions and maternity allowances, the former of which at any rate would have had to be borne by the States. The Federal Government took over military and naval matters from the States, and spent £2,950,722 on that department. It also took over from the States the collection of Customs, and spent £730,458 thereon. It also took charge of postal arrangements throughout Australia, and spent £5,157,022 on them, but of course obtained the counterbalancing revenue. Its Department of External Affairs dispensed £678,974, but that included £335,850 for the Northern Territory, which South Australia would have had to stand had there been no Federation, and £60,640 on Papua, which Queensland would presumably have had to find. It, however, spent £18,320 on its head office, £3000 on the High Commissioner in London, and £24,606 on the High Commissioner's Office in London, and £102,395 on the Port Augusta railway. The other particulars you ask for can be obtained from Mr. Knibb's invaluable official year book.

Q.—What was the net profit of the Commonwealth Bank last year?

A.—The net profits of the bank in 1917 were £458,810. For the year ending October 15th 1917, the profits of the Bank of Australasia were £405,646. Since its inception the Commonwealth Bank has made a profit of £758,950.

Q.—What tonnage did the U-boats sink during the first six months of this year?

A.—The record of monthly sinking, by U-boats has been considerably revised at different times, but the figures for the first seven months now given are these:—

	British.	Neutral.	Total.
January ...	217,270	136,187	353,457
February ...	254,303	134,110	388,422
March ...	216,003	165,628	381,631
April ...	193,134	118,322	311,456
May ...	182,009	115,980	297,989
June ...	165,314	132,703	298,017
July ...	176,479	136,532	313,011
	1,604,512	939,471	2,543,983

It would seem, therefore, that the amount of tonnage sunk has remained almost constant for the last four months, which is rather disappointing in view of the statements to the effect that the menace was disappearing. Present indications are that, with earnest speeding up, British yards will be able to turn out almost 2,000,000 tons this year, and Mr. Schwab is con-

fidant that the 3,000,000 tons expected from American yards will be exceeded. It is well to note, though, that whilst the British figures of monthly output appear to be for completed ships, the Americans are for ships launched. Consequently whilst the American output may exceed 3,000,000 tons, Allied fleets would not be increased by that tonnage until some considerable time after the end of the year. But America is obviously getting into her stride, and in 1919 will greatly exceed a production of 3,000,000 tons.

Q.—Have many Norwegian vessels been lost since the outbreak of the war?

A.—Up to the end of May last the total number of Norwegian vessels lost by mines and submarines was 769, with a total tonnage of £1,127,310.

Q.—Are the members of the British House of Commons paid or not?

A.—They all receive £300 a year from the British Treasury, and have done so since March, 1906, when a Bill was passed through Parliament for the payment of members.

Q.—Have the Allies always had more soldiers on the Western front than the Germans?

A.—The Germans probably had a greater number of troops there in 1914, and perhaps in 1915. In 1916, however, the Allies must have been numerically superior to the Germans. Lloyd George, in a speech delivered in the House of Commons on February 12th of this year, stated: "Up to the present the Allies have had an overwhelming majority of troops upon the Western front. That is giving no military information away." He went on to say: "Gradually, even rapidly, that superiority has diminished, especially during the last few weeks." He was referring to the transference of German troops from the Eastern to the Western front.

Q.—Did Thomas Carlyle really approve the German annexation of Alsace-Lorraine?

A.—He wrote a letter to *The Times* in December, 1870, in which he said: "No people has had such a bad neighbour as Germany has possessed during the last four hundred years in France. Germany would have been mad had she not thought of erecting a frontier wall between herself and such a neighbour when opportunity offered."

Q.—When did President Wilson set out the American war aims?

A.—He made a statement to Congress on January 8th, containing fourteen clauses,

which he considered would have to be adopted by all belligerents before peace could come. Speaking on February 11th on the subject he said: "The United States is quite ready to be shown that the settlements she has suggested are not the best or the most enduring. They are only her own provisional sketch of principles, and of the way in which they should be applied."

Q.—Do all persons who were born in Germany have to register under any of the War Precautions Regulations even when they left Europe at a very early age and have been naturalised for many years?

A.—The War Precautions Aliens' Registration Regulations 1916, provide for the registration of all aliens resident in or entering the Commonwealth. Regulation 3 defines "Alien" as any alien friend or alien enemy over the age of sixteen years, and includes the wife of an alien. That regulation further provides that a person registered as an alien under the regulations who becomes naturalised as a British subject shall remain subject to the regulations until he produces to the Aliens' Registration officer nearest to his usual place of abode the certificate of his naturalisation or evidence of the facts by virtue of which he became a British subject. *Naturalised persons are not otherwise subject to the regulations.*

Q.—Can Australians be conscripted in America, England, or Fiji?

A.—The British Imperial Act excepts from the provisions of the Act "men ordinarily resident in His Majesty's Dominions abroad, or resident in Great Britain for the purpose only of their education or for some other special purpose." I understand that Australians are not liable to conscription in America or in Fiji.

Q.—Should a naturalised Alien who married a British subject transfer his estate to his wife, would he ensure the safety of his capital in case a law should be introduced to confiscate the property of aliens naturalised or otherwise?

A.—That is a purely hypothetical case, as such a confiscation law has not been introduced anywhere, nor is it likely to be. If, however, such a plan were adopted it is practically certain that it would contain provisions which would enable the State to secure the property of the alien no matter whether it stood in his name or in that of his wife.



NORMAN ANGELL AND THE WAR.*

Mr. Norman Angell is one of some half-dozen living English publicists whose thoughts on foreign affairs deserve the weightiest consideration. It is not because there is open to him any sources of information to which others have no access. It is not because what he says reveals a new arresting attitude. What distinguishes him from a legion of lesser writers is the possession of a common sense which amounts to genius. He goes directly to the root of the matter. He makes diplomacy intelligible by making diplomacy human. He invests whatever he touches with essential clarity by reducing it to its simplest elements. There is probably no man since Cobden who has been able to direct so general and widespread an attention to the problems of international politics. To read him is a liberal education in the arts of controversy. He is always clear, always ready to listen to countervailing arguments, always prepared with the answer that is more than a retort. His present volume is not the least valuable, as it is by far the most timely of those discussions by which, at various stages of the war, he has so signally clarified the issue.

To every one with ears that hear beyond the roar of the guns it is obvious that we have entered a stage of the war where what is essential is the rigorous marshalling of the political forces on the side of the Allies. Peace, even if intangible, lurks on the horizon; and the form it is to take depends very largely upon the skill with which its presence can be detected by that impalpable conglomeration we call public opinion. What, briefly, Mr. Angell has done is to analyse the conditions under which that factor, in its best and highest aspect, can most fruitfully be got to work. What he is concerned to achieve is the moral unity of the Allies. It is important to remem-

ber how greatly our victory has been retarded by its absence. Military unity is of secondary importance compared to unity of political front. The Russian disaster, to take the most obvious instance, has been largely due to the inability of the Allies to convince the Russian people that their programme of territorial adjustment was the adequate reflection of their moral aims. Not only have we conflicting territorial ambitions to harmonise; but there is also, perhaps even more vitally, the clash of internal economic interests. Exactly in so far as these discrepancies remain it is easy for Germany to avoid thinking of peace in the kind of terms we require. We have so to define our internationalism as to take account of the new forces that confront us. We have to get rid of the effete conceptions underlying such things as exclusive national sovereignty and our refusal to believe that a transition from force to arrangement is possible. We cannot, as Mr. Angell emphasises, do these things so long as Mr. Wilson is basing his conception of peace upon a League of Nations and M. Clemenceau roundly declaring that Leagues of Nations are nonsense. We cannot hope to present a united front to Germany so long as Mr. Wilson rejects the idea of an economic after-war and official committees of the British Government adopt the idea of an economic after-war as the basis of their proposals for reconstruction. We cannot honestly speak in one breath of national self-determination, and in the next work out the exact basis upon which we propose to divide up the German Empire. We must not welcome the Russian revolution in one moment and lend money to the counter revolutionary Ukraine in the next.

It is no use, as Mr. Angell says, ascribing these things either to imperialism or the special wickedness of diplomats. They are inherent in the system under which we live, and our victory depends

*"The Political Conditions of Allied Success," by Norman Angell. Putnam's; 6/-.

upon the destruction of that system. We have to come to the understanding that national security does not depend upon the individual preponderance of the different States. We have to substitute, that is to say, the sovereignty that co-operation of the free peoples can institute for the older theory of exclusiveness. We can only do that, as Mr. Angell wisely urges, by an act of faith. We have thus far little or no experience of what it means, and the forms in which it is, for the most, clothed are chilly enough. The important thing is the propagation of the spirit that makes it possible, the mechanisms will come as the crystallisation of that spirit. Our business is not a greater military preparedness; there is not a shadow of evidence that, for instance, a great conscript army in Britain before the war would have done other than hasten this conflict. We have to make internationalism real by proving our belief in it. The British Labour Party has signally done that. There is evidence, and to spare, that Mr. Wilson has managed, by diplomatic methods alone, to make the Central Powers thoroughly uncomfortable. Everyone knows the happy results of the Italian abandonment of her Dalmatian claims. These are the things that disturb the factors upon which Germany has to count for her strength. The things that assist her are the crass indifference of men like Mr. Gompers to the deeper issues before us. How are we to consolidate these forces into a definite direction?

Mr. Angell's argument is based upon the belief that we think, politically, too much in terms of Government. We talk of Russia where we mean the Tsar and an odd handful of vicious courtiers. The "policy of England" may, in truth, be a speech of Sir Edward Carson that is immediately repudiated by millions of trade unionists in England. The "attitude of France" may be a letter of M. Poincaré which would probably have been rejected by ninety-nine out of every hundred French citizens—a letter, at least, which he did not dare to publish. The hypothesis, in fact, that we can equate Government and people is too simple to be adequate. The present English Government could not speak for the British Labour party. M. Clemenceau could not speak for M. Renaudel. The

Kaiser does not represent the ideals of the Minority Socialists. In such an aspect, a definitive peace could not be made if the personnel of the peace conference were built up on the old diplomatic system. What we need is a commission of diplomatic experts reinforced at every stage by a delegation which, largely speaking, would claim to represent the varying strands of public opinion. There should be room for Mr. Philip Snowden not less than Lord Robert Cecil, for Mr. Charles Trevelyan as well as Mr. Lloyd George. And the very basis of such action ought to be the transformation, by means of an Inter-Allied Conference, of the present vague and inchoate alliance, into a permanent League of Nations offering admission and protection on the one hand, or exclusion from its benefits on the other. Essential in this latter respect is the fact that the League could prevent that equality of economic opportunity which is implied in its predominant control of basic raw materials.

Such a bare statement necessarily does less than justice to the convincing fashion in which Mr. Angell argues his case. It is difficult to doubt that the spirit of his attack is, in the main, both just and helpful. Where the difficulties begin to accumulate is in the problems of organisation. Is it certain, for instance, that minority representation would not, as a fact, give a far greater handle to German hopes of separatism at the peace conference than it already possesses? What is to be the basis of representation? How are the delegates to be selected? Is an American delegation, for instance, thinkable of which Colonel House and Colonel Roosevelt are alike part? Is the minority delegate to have access to the private papers of his foreign office? If he is not, how is he adequately to orientate himself in the problems before the conference? What is to be the relation between him and the official experts of the Government? I do not doubt that upon all these questions Mr. Angell has his solution to offer. Like him, I feel that this problem of minorities does go to the very root of the kind of peace we are to have. What he has to say of its background is so fair and wise and timely that one cannot avoid being eager for what further light he can offer.

H.J.L.

The Winds of Chance

By REX BEACH.

Author of "The Barrier," "The Iron Trail," "The Ne'er-do-well," "The Silver Horde," etc.

CHAPTER XXXI.

PIERCE'S friends were uniformly indignant, and without exception they maintained their faith in his innocence; most of them, in fact, actually applied themselves to the task of clearing him of Courteau's charge. But of the latter the one who applied herself the most thoughtfully, the most seriously, was the Countess Courteau. Having reasoned that she herself was indirectly responsible for his plight, she set about aiding him in a thoroughly feminine and indirect manner. It was an unpleasant undertaking; she took it up with intense abhorrence; it required her utmost determination to carry it on. Her plan had formed itself immediately upon learning what had happened; her meeting with the Count that evening and her unexpected solicitude, her unbidden attention to his injury, was a part of it. As time went on she assumed an air that amazed the man. She meekly accepted his reproaches, she submitted to his abuse, cautiously, patiently she paved the way to a reconciliation.

It was by no means easy, for she and Henri had long lived in what was little better than a state of open hostility, and she had been at no pains to conceal the utter disregard and contempt she felt for him. He, of course, had resented it; her change of demeanour now awoke his suspicion. He was a vain and shallow person, however; his conceit was thoroughly Latin, and Hilda's perseverance was in a way rewarded. Slowly, grudgingly he gave way before her subtle advances—they were, in fact, less advances on her part than opportunities for him—he experienced a feeling of triumph and began to assume a masterful air that was indeed trying to one of her disposition. Before his friends he boasted that his energetic defence of his honour had worked a marvel in his home; in her presence he made bold to

take on a swagger and an authority hitherto unknown.

Hilda stood it with what cost no one could possibly understand. In some manner she managed to convey the idea that he dominated her, and that she cringed spiritually before him. She permitted him occasionally to surprise a look of bewilderment, almost of fright, in her eyes and this tickled the man immensely. With a fatuous complacency, thoroughly typical, he told himself that she feared and respected him—was actually falling in love with him all over again. When he felt the impulse to scout this idea he went to his mirror and examined himself critically. Why not? he asked himself. He was very pleasing. Women had always been wax in his hands; he had a personality, an air, an irresistible something that had won him many conquests. It seemed not unlikely that Hilda had been shocked into a new and keener realisation of his many admirable qualities and was ready to make up if, or when, he graciously chose to permit her.

On the very evening that Colonel Cavendish and his wife were discussing Pierce Phillips's affair, Courteau, feeling in a particularly jubilant mood, decided to put the matter to a test, therefore he surprised his wife by walking into her room unannounced.

"My dear," he began. "It's high time we had a talk."

"Indeed," said she. "What about?"

"About you, about me, about our affairs. Are we husband and wife or are we not? I ask you."

With a queer flicker of her eyelids she answered: "Why—of course. You have appeared to forget it sometimes, but—"

"No reproaches, please. The past is gone. Neither of us is without blame. You've had your fling, too, but I've shown you that I'm made of stern stuff and will tolerate no further foolishness. I am a different Courteau than you ever

knew. I've had my re-birth. Now then, our present mode of life is not pleasing to me, for I'm a fellow of spirit. Think of me—in the attitude of a dependent!"

"I share generously with you. I give you money——"

"The very point," he broke in excitedly. "You give: I accept. You direct: I obey. It must end now, at once. I cannot play the accompaniment while you sing. Either I close my eyes to your folly and forgive, utterly—either we become man and wife again and I assume leadership—or I make different plans for the future."

"Just what do you propose, Henri?"

The fellow shrugged. "I offer you a reconciliation: that, to begin with. You've had your lesson and I flatter myself that you see me in a new light. The brave can afford to be generous. I—well, I've always had a feeling for you: I've never been blind to your attractions, my dear. Lately, I've even experienced something of the—er—the old spell. Understand me? It's a fact. I'm actually taken with you, Hilda. I have the fire of an impetuous lover."

Courteau's eyes gleamed, there was an unusual warmth to his gaze and a vibrance to his tone. He curled his moustache, he swelled his chest, he laughed lightly but deeply. "What do you say, eh? I'm not altogether displeasing. No? You see something in me to admire? I thrill you? Confess?"

The wife lowered her eyes. "You have some power——" she murmured.

"Power! Precisely." The Count nodded and there was a growing vivacity and sparkle to him. "That is my quality: a man to charm, a power to achieve, a power to triumph. Well, I choose now to win you again for myself. It is my whim. To re-kindle a love which one has lost is a test of any man's power, *n'est-ce-pas?* You are fond of me. I see it. Am I not right, my sweet?"

He laid his soft white hands upon his wife's shoulders and bent an ardent gaze upon her. Hilda faced him with an odd smile, her cheeks were white, her ice-blue eyes very wide and bright and they held a curious expression.

"Come! A kiss!" he persisted. "Oho! You tremble, you shrink like a maiden. I, too, am exhilarated but——" With a chuckle he folded her in

his embrace and she did not resist. After a moment he resumed: "This is quite too amusing. I wish my friends to see and to understand. Put on your prettiest dress——"

"What for?"

"We are going down-town. We shall celebrate our reunion—we shall drink to it, publicly. All Dawson shall take note. They have said: 'Courteau is a loafer, a ne'er-do-well, and he permits another to win his wife away from him.' I propose to show them."

"You mean you propose to show me off. Is that it? Another conquest, eh?"

"Have it as you will. I——"

"I won't go," Hilda cried furiously. She freed herself from his arms. "You know I won't go. You'd like to parade me in the places you frequent—saloons, dance-halls, gambling-houses. The idea!"

"You won't? Tut, tut! What is this?" Courteau cried angrily. "Rebellious so soon? Is this change of demeanour assumed? Have you been fooling me?"

"What change?" the woman parried. "I don't know——"

"Oh, yes, you do! For the first time in years you have treated me as a husband should be treated; half measures will no longer satisfy me. We have arrived at the show-up. Are you a miserable Delilah or——"

"Please don't ask me to go out with you, Henri," the woman pleaded, in genuine distress now that she saw he was in earnest. "To be paraded like an animal on a chain! Think of my feelings!"

"Indeed! Think of mine!" he cried. "This is my hour, my triumph: I propose to make it complete. Now that I carefully consider it I will put you to the test. You've had a fine time; if you pay a price for it, whose fault is that? No! One must be cruel to be kind."

"Cruel! Kind!" Hilda sneered. "It merely pleases you to humiliate me."

"Very well!" blazed the Count. "If it pleases me, so be it. That is my attitude now and henceforth my will is to be law. Come! Your prettiest dress and your prettiest smile, for we celebrate. Yes, and money, too; I'm as poverty-ridden as usual. We will treat my friends, we will gamble here and there, we will watch the shows to an ac-

companionment of popping corks so that everyone shall see us and say: 'Yonder is Courteau and his wife. They have made up and she adores him like a mistress. *Parbleu!* The man has a way with women, eh!' It shall be a great night for me!"

"Are you really serious?"

Courteau stamped his felt-shod foot. "Anger me no more."

Hilda's face was white, her eyes were still glowing with that peculiar light of defiance, of desperation, of curiosity; nevertheless she turned away and began to dress herself.

Courteau was not disappointed: his appearance in the river-front resorts, accompanied by his wife, created a sensation indeed. And Hilda's bearing under the circumstances, added to his gratification, for now that the die was cast she surrendered completely, she clung to him as if feeling a new dependence, and this filled his cup to overflowing. It was an outrageous thing to do: no one save a Courteau would have thought of subjecting the woman who bore his name to such a humiliation. But he was a perverse individual; his mind ran in crooked courses; he took a bizarre delight in the unusual, and morality of the common sort he knew not. To smirch her, even a little bit, to subject her to seeming disgrace, not only taught her a lesson but also united them more closely, so he told himself. That he had the ability to compel her to do anything against her will immensely tickled his vanity, for her stubborn independence had always been a trial to him. He knew that her social status was not of the highest; nevertheless her reputation was far better than his, and among all except the newest arrivals in Dawson she bore a splendid name. To be, himself, the cause of blackening that name, in order to match his own, gratified his feelings of resentment. All in all, it was a night of nights for him and he was at no pains to conceal his satisfaction. From one place to another he led her, taking malicious enjoyment from the distress he caused.

Courteau was not loud nor blatant, nevertheless his triumphant demeanour, his proprietary air, fairly shouted the fact that he had tamed this woman and was exhibiting her against her inclinations. At every bar he forced her to drink with him and with his friends, he

even called up bar-room loafers whom he did not know and introduced them with an elaborate flourish. The money he spent was hers, of course, but he squandered it royally, leaving a trail of empty champagne bottles behind. Champagne, at this time, sold for twenty dollars a quart, and, although Hilda saw her earnings melting away with appalling rapidity, she offered no protest. Together they flung their chips broadcast upon the gambling tables, and their winnings, which were few, went to buy more popularity with the satellites who trailed them.

As time passed and Hilda continued to meet the test, her husband's satisfaction gained a keener edge. He beamed, he strutted, he twisted his moustache to needle-points. She was a thoroughbred, that he assured himself. But after all, why shouldn't she do this for him? The women with whom he was accustomed to associate would not have counted such an evening as this a sacrifice, and, even had they so considered it, he was in the habit of exacting sacrifices from women. They liked it: it proved their devotion.

Her subjugation was made complete when he led her into a box at the Rialto Theatre and insisted upon the two McCaskeys joining them. The brothers at first declined, but by this time Courteau's determination carried all before it.

Joe halted him outside the box door, however, to inquire into the meaning of the affair.

"It means this," the Count informed him. "I have effected a complete reconciliation with my adorable wife. Women are all alike: they fear the iron, they kiss the hand that smites them. I have made her my obedient slave, *mon ami*. That's what it means."

"It don't look good to me," Joe said morosely. "She's got an ace buried somewhere."

"Eh? What are you trying to say?"

"I've got a hunch she's salving you, Count. She's stuck on Phillips, like I told you, and she's trying to get a peek at your hole card."

It was characteristic of Courteau that he should take instant offence at this reflection upon his sagacity, this doubt of his ability as a charmer.

"You insult my intelligence!" he cried stiffly. "And, above all, I possess intelligence. You—do not. No. You are

coarse, you are gross. I am full of sentiment——”

“Rats!” McCasky growled. “I get that way myself sometimes. Sentiment like yours costs twenty dollars a quart. But this ain’t the time for a spree: we got business on our hands.”

The Count eyed his friend with a frown. “It is a personal affair and concerns our business not in the least. I am a revengeful person; I have pride and I exact payment from those who wound it. I brought my wife here as a punishment, and I propose to make her drink with you. Your company is not agreeable at any time, my friend, and she does you an honour——”

“Cut out that tony talk,” Joe said roughly. “You’re a broken-hipped stiff and you’re trying to grab her bankroll. Don’t you s’pose I’m on? My company was all right until you got your hand in the hotel cash-drawer, now I’m coarse. Maybe she’s on the square—she fell for you once—but I bet she’s working you. Make sure of this, my high-and-mighty nobleman——” for emphasis the speaker laid a heavy hand upon the Count’s shoulder and thrust his disagreeable face closer, “—— that you keep your mouth shut. Savvy? Don’t let her sweat you——”

The admonitory words ended abruptly for the door of the box reopened and Joe found the Countess Courteau facing him. For an instant their glances met and in her eyes the man saw an expression uncomfortably reminiscent of that day at Sheep Camp when she had turned public wrath upon his brother Jim’s head. But the look was fleeting; she fixed it upon her husband, and the Count, with an apology for his delay, entered the box dragging McCasky with him.

Frank, it appeared, shared his brother’s suspicions; the two exchanged glances as Joe entered, then when the little party had adjusted itself to the cramped quarters they watched the Countess curiously, hoping to analyse her true intent. But in this they were unsuccessful. She treated both of them with a cool, impartial formality, quite natural under the circumstances, but in no other way did she appear conscious of that clash on the Chilkoot trail. It was not a pleasant situation at best, and Joe especially was ill at ease, but Courteau continued his

spendthrift role keeping the waiters busy, and under the influence of his potations the elder McCaskey soon regained some of his natural *sang-froid*. All three men drank liberally, and by the time the lower floor had been cleared for dancing, they were in a hilarious mood. They laughed loudly, they shouted greetings across to other patrons of the place, they flung corks at the whirling couples below.

Meanwhile, they forced the woman to imbibe with them. Joe, in spite of his returning confidence, kept such close watch of her that she could not spill her glass into the bucket except rarely. Hilda hated alcohol and its effect, she was not accustomed to drinking. As she felt her intoxication mounting she became fearful that the very medium upon which she had counted for success would prove to be her undoing. Desperately she battled to retain her wits; more than once, with a reckless defiance utterly foreign to her preconceived plans, she was upon the point of hurling the bubbling contents of her glass into the flushed faces about her and telling these men how completely she was shamming, but she managed to resist the temptation. That she felt such an impulse at all made her fearful of committing some action, equally rash, of dropping some word that would prove fatal.

It was a hideous ordeal. She realised that already the cloak of decency, of respectability, which she had been at such pains to preserve during these difficult years, was gone, lost for good and all. She had made herself a Lady Godiva; by this night of conspicuous revelry she had undone everything. Not only had she condoned the sins and the shortcomings of her dissolute husband, but also she had put herself on a level with him and with the fallen women of the town—his customary associates. Courteau had done this to her. It had been his proposal. She could have throttled him where he sat.

The long night dragged on interminably. Like leeches the two McCaskeys clung to their prodigal host, and not until the early hours of morning when the Count had become sodden, sullen, stupefied and when they were in a condition little better, did they permit him to leave them. How Hilda got him home she scarcely knew, for she, too, had all but lost command of her senses. There

were moments when she fought unavailingly against a mental numbness, a stupor that rolled upward and suffused her like a cloud of noxious vapours, leaving her knees weak, her hands clumsy, her vision blurred; again waves of deathly illness surged over her. Under and through it all, however, her subconscious will to conquer remained firm. (Over and over she told herself: "I'll have the truth and then—I'll make him pay.")

Courteau followed his wife into her room, and there his maudlin manner changed. He roused himself, and smiled at her fatuously; into his eyes flamed a desire, into his cheeks came a deeper flush. He pawed at her caressingly; he voiced thick, passionate protestations. Hilda had expected nothing less; it was for this that she had bled her flesh and crucified her spirit these many hours.

"You're—wonderful woman," the man mumbled as he swayed with her in his arms. "Got all the old charm and more. Game, too!" He laughed foolishly, then in drunken gravity asserted: "Well, I'm the man, the stronger vessel. To turn hate into love, that——"

"You've taken your price. You've had your hour," she told him. Her head was thrown back, her eyes were closed, her teeth were clenched as if in a final struggle for self-restraint.

Courteau pressed his lips to hers, then in a sudden frenzy he crushed her closer and fell to kissing her cheeks, her neck, her throat. He mistook her shudder of abhorrence for a thrill responsive to his passion and hiccoughed.

"You're mine again, all mine, and—I'm mad about you. I'm aflame. This is like the night of our marriage, what?"

"Are you satisfied, now that you've made me suffer? Do you still imagine I care for that foolish boy?"

"Phillips? Bah! A noisy swine." Again the Count chuckled, but this time his merriment ran away with him until he shook and until tears came to his eyes.

Without reason Hilda joined in his laughter. Together they stood rocking, giggling, snickering as if at some ex-cruciating jest.

"He—he tried to steal you—from me. From me! Imagine it! Then he struck me. Well, where is he now, eh?"

"I never dreamed that you cared enough for me to—to do what you did. To risk so much."

"Risk?"

Hilda nodded and her loose straw-gold hair brushed Courteau's cheek. "Don't pretend any longer. I knew from the start. But you were jealous. When a woman loses the power to excite jealousy it's a sign she's growing old and ugly and losing her fire. She can face anything except that."

"Fire!" Henri exclaimed. "*Parbleu!* Don't I know you to be a volcano."

"How did you manage the affair—that fellow's ruin? It frightens me to realise that you can accomplish such things."

The Count pushed his wife away. "What are you talking about?" he demanded.

"Oh, very well! Carry it out if you wish," she said with a careless shrug. "But you're not fooling me in the least! On the contrary, I admire your spirit. Now then, I'm thirsty. And you are, too." With a smile she evaded his outstretched arms and left the room. She was back in a moment with a bottle and two glasses. The latter she filled, and her own she raised with a gesture, and Courteau blindly followed suit.

In spite of his deep intoxication the man still retained the embers of suspicion, and when she spoke of Pierce Phillips they began to glow and threatened to burst into flame. Cunningly, persistently, she played upon him, however. She enticed, she coquetted, she cajoled; she maddened him with her advances, she teased him with her repulses, she drugged him with her smiles, her fragrant charms. Time and again he was upon the point of surrender but caught himself in time.

She won at last. She dragged the story from him, bit by bit, playing upon his vanity, until he gabbled boastfully and took a crapulent delight in repeating the details. It was a tale distorted and confused, but the truth was there. She made an excuse to leave him, finally, and remained out of the room for a long time. When she returned it was to find him sprawled across her bed and fast asleep. For a moment she held dizzily to the bedpost and stared down at him. Her mask had slipped now, her face was

distorted with loathing and so deep were her feelings that she could not bear to touch him, even to cover him over. Leaving him spread-eagled as he was she staggered out of his unclean presence.

Hilda was deathly sick; objects were gyrating before her eyes; she felt a hideous nightmare sensation of unreality, and was filled with an intense contempt, a tragic disgust, for herself. Pausing at the foot of the stairs, she strove to gather herself together; then slowly, passionately, she cursed the name of Pierce Phillips.

CHAPTER XXXII.

TOM LINTON and Jerry Quirk toiled slowly up the trail toward their cabin. Both men were bundled thickly, in clothing, both bewhiskered visages bore grotesque breath-masks of ice; even their eyebrows were hoary with frost. The partners were very tired.

Pausing in the chip-littered space before their door, they gazed down the trail to a mound of gravel which stood out raw and red against the universal whiteness. This mound was in the form of a truncated cone and on its level top was a windlass and a pole bucket track. From beneath the windlass issued a cloud of smoke which mounted in billows as if breathed forth from a concealed chimney—smoke from the smothered drift fires laid against the frozen face of pay dirt forty feet below the surface. Evidently this fire was burning to suit the partners; after watching it a moment Tom took a bucksaw and fell stiffly to work upon a dry spruce log which lay on the saw-buck; Jerry sat on his mittens and began to split the blocks as they fell.

Darkness was close at hand, but both men were so fagged that they found it impossible to hurry. Neither did they speak. Patiently, silently they sawed and chopped, then carried the wood into the chilly cabin; while one lit the lamp and went for a sack of ice, the other kindled a fire. These tasks accomplished, by mutual consent, but still without exchanging a word they approached the table. From the windowsill Tom took a coin and balanced it upon his thumb and forefinger; then, in answer to his bleak, inquiring glance, Jerry nodded and he snapped the piece into the

air. While it was still spinning, Jerry barked sharply:

"Tails!"

Both grey-heads bent and near-sightedly examined the coin.

"Tails she is," Tom announced. He replaced the silver piece, crossed the room to his bunk, seated himself upon it and remained there while Jerry, with a sudden access of cheerfulness, hustled to the stove, warmed himself, and then began culinary preparations.

These preparations were simple but precise, also they were deliberate. Jerry cut one slice of ham, he measured out just enough coffee for one person, he opened one can of corn and he mixed a half-pan of biscuits. Tom watched him from beneath a frown, meanwhile tugging moodily at the icicles which still clung to his lips. His corner of the cabin was cold, hence it was a painful process. When he had disposed of the last lump and when he could no longer restrain his irritation he broke out:

"Of course you had to make *bread*, didn't you? Just because you know I'm starving."

"It come tails, didn't it?" Jerry inquired with aggravating pleasantness. "It ain't my fault you're starving, and you got all night to cook what *you* want—after I'm done. I don't care if you bake a layer-cake and freeze ice-cream. You can put your front feet in the trough and champ your swill, you can root and waller in it for all of *me*. I won't hurry you, not in the least."

"It's come tails every time lately," grumbled the former speaker.

Jerry giggled. "I always was right lucky, except in pickin' pardners," he declared. In a cracked and tuneless voice he began humming a roundelay evidently intended to express gaiety and content.

Unable longer to withstand his gnawing hunger, Tom secured for himself a large round hardtack and with this he tried to ward off the pangs of starvation. But he had small success with the endeavour, for his teeth were poor. He flung the thing of adamant aside, finally, and cried testily:

"My God! Ain't it bad enough to eat a phonograph record without having to listen to the machine? Shut up, will you? You've got the indecentest singing voice I ever heard."

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"Say!" Jerry looked up belligerently. "You don't have to listen to my singin'. There's plenty of room outside—all the room from here south to Seattle. And you don't have to gum that pilot bread if your teeth is loose. You can boil yourself a pot of mush—when your turn comes. You got a free hand. As for me, I eat anything I want to and I sing anything I want to, whenever I want to, and I'd like to see anybody stop me. We don't have to toss up for turns at singin'." More loudly he raised his high-pitched voice: ostentatiously he rattled his dishes.

Tom settled back in exasperated silence, but as time wore on and his hungry nostrils were assailed with the warm, tantalising odour of frying ham fat he fidgeted nervously.

Having prepared a meal to his liking, Jerry set the table with a single plate, cup and saucer, then seated himself with a luxurious grunt. He ate slowly, he rolled every mouthful with relish, he fletcherised it with calculated deliberation, he paused between times to blow loudly upon his coffee and to smack his lips—sounds that in themselves were a provocation and an insult to his listener. When he had cleaned up his interminable repast and was finishing the last scrap, Tom arose and made for the stove.

Jerry watched him, paralysed in mid motion, until his partner's hand was outstretched, then he suddenly shouted:

"Get away from there!"

Tom started. "What for?" he queried, a light of rebellion flaring into his eyes. "Ain't you through with your supper? You been at it long enough."

"You see me eatin', don't you? After I get fed up and my teeth picked I got all my dishes to wash."

"That wasn't our arrangement."

"It was so."

"You'll eat all night," Tom complained almost tearfully. "You'll set there and gorge till you bust."

"That's my privilege. I don't aim to swallow my grub whole. I'm shy a few teeth and some of the balance don't meet, so I can't consume vittles like I was a pulp mill. I didn't start this row—"

"Who did?"

"Now, ain't that a fool question?"

Jerry leaned back comfortably and began an elaborate vacuum-cleaning process of what teeth he retained. "Who

starts all our rows if I don't? No. I'm as easy goin' as a greased eel, and most anybody can get along with me. But tread on my tail and I swop ends, pronto. That's me. I go on my even way, but I live up to my bargains and I see to it that others do the same. You get away from that stove!"

Tom abandoned his purpose, and with the resignation of a martyr returned to teeter upon the edge of his bunk. He remained there, glum, malevolent, watchful, until his cabin mate had leisurely cleared the table, washed and put away his dishes; then with a sigh of fat repletion, unmistakably intended as a provocation, had lit his pipe and stretched himself luxuriously upon his bed.

Even then Tom made no move. He merely glowered at the recumbent figure. Jerry blew a cloud of smoke, then waved a generous gesture.

"Now then, fly at it, Mr. Linton," he said sweetly. "I've et my fill: I've had an ample sufficiency; I'm through and in for the night."

"Oh, no you ain't! You get up and wash that skillet." Mr. Quirk started guiltily. "Hustle your creaking joints and scrub it out."

"Pshaw! I only fried a slice—"

"Scrub it!" Linton ordered.

This command Jerry obeyed, although it necessitated heating more water, a procedure which, of course, he maliciously prolonged. "Waited till I was all spread out, didn't you," he sneered as he stooped over the wood-box. "That's like you. Some people are so small-calibred they'd rattle around in a gnat's bladder like a mustard-seed in a bass-drum."

"I'm particular who I eat after," Tom said, "so be sure you scrub it clean."

"Thought you'd spoil my smoke. Well, I can smoke standin' on my head and enjoy it." There was a silence broken only by the sound of Jerry's labours. At last he spoke "Once again, I repeat what I told you yesterday: I took the words out of your own mouth. You said the woman was a hellion—"

"I never did. Even if I had I wouldn't allow a comparative stranger to apply such an epithet to a member of my family."

"You did say it. And she ain't a member of your family."

Tom's jaws snapped. "If patience is a virtue," he declared in quivering anger, "I'll slide into heaven on skids. Assassination ought not to be a crime; it's warranted, like abating a nuisance: it ain't even a misdemeanour—sometimes She was a noble woman——"

"Hellion! I got it on the authority of her own husband—you!"

Tom rose and stamped over to the stove, he slammed its door and clattered the coffee-pot to down this hateful persistence. Having had the last word, as usual, Jerry retreated in satisfaction to his bed and stretched his aching frame upon it.

(To be continued in our next number—
October 19, 1918.)

FINANCIAL NOTES.

The assent of the Standing Committee on Bank Amalgamations, the Treasury, the Board of Trade, and the Committee on Fresh Issues of Capital, had to be obtained before the fusion of the London Provincial and South-Western Bank with Barclay's Bank Ltd., could be authorised by shareholders of the institutions indicated. The amalgamated bank, which will trade under the name of Barclay's Banks Ltd., will rank amongst the largest in the world, with an issued capital of £12,679,444, of which £7,289,444 will be paid up, a reserve fund of £6,000,000, and deposits largely exceeding £200,000,000, Barclay's having held £129,000,000 at the end of last year, and the Provincial about £80,000,000.

is little doubt that the tax has operated to materially increase the cost of nearly all manufactured articles."

In an address before the London Chamber of Commerce, Sir Lionel Phillips declared that gold was likely to play a great part in restoring the financial situation, pending the time when commodities, which would answer the same purpose, could be produced or absorbed. Gold was the best means of storing immediately available resources. It helped to regulate foreign exchanges, was necessary as support for paper currency and the credit system, and it played some part in the rate of interest. The great necessity was a constant stream of raw gold, so as to avert a further increase in the paper currency.

Commenting upon the Excess Profits Tax in Britain, *The London Financial Times* of 26th July, states:—"We have now had some years' experience of the working of the excess profits duty, first, at the rate of 50 per cent., then at 60 per cent., and latterly at 80 per cent., and to those in any way familiar with its working the results are known to have been by no means so satisfactory as the ordinary citizen, who judges simply by the enormous amounts which it turns in to the revenue, probably imagines. As to its productiveness there is no doubt. . . . As a revenue producer, it has certainly not been a failure." The writer then points out objections which experience has brought to light. He says "the most obvious is the absolute injustice of the tax in its incidence, and the severe hamper it imposes upon the starting of new enterprises. . . . With the duty at 80 per cent. the usual incentive for economy in working very largely vanishes. . . . There

"We fully recognise the very valuable services which the bank (Bank of England) has in various ways rendered to the Government during the war. . . . but it appears to us clear that the services of the bank do not justify remuneration such as they have been obtaining, and we are glad to be able to say that, as the result of the inquiries and representations of our Sub-Committee, the bank has now offered to enter into a revised agreement with the Treasury for the remainder of the war period, which is estimated to secure a total reduction of £750,000 (in addition to further small reductions in respect of Treasury bills) in its remuneration for the financial year 1917-18, and an equally large, or larger, reduction for the current year, unless new conditions arise." (Report of British Select Committee on National Expenditure.)

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